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The Romance of the Merino

The Rise and Spread of a Great Animal Family—Its Service and Adaptations in America—
The Continued Need of Merino Qualities.

(From the Unpublished Manuscripts of the late Roscoe Wood)

The Merino sheep may well be called the first pure-bred domestic animal. Its introduction to America ante-dated that of all others, while its work of improvement of the native stock first demonstrated the power and value of pure-bred live stock to the American farmer and stock grower. The Merino ewe is the foundation on which is built American sheep husbandry. A century of effort was expended by master American breeders whose minds and energies have been devoted to her improvement and development in making their work firm, substantial, and enduring.

What the nation as a whole as well as that part of her people who raise sheep owe to Merinos and the men who have produced them can not be computed and will probably never be realized. It is a story which were it embellished with all the adornments of romance and imagination would surpass in human interest the greatest tales of fancy even as truth is ever stranger than fiction. Those qualities of meekness and humility which have ever characterized the sheep in the animal kingdom seem to be marked peculiarly in the Merino. Never promoted by any modern methods of publicity and even antagonized by many of the present factors which are powerful in the advancement of American live stock, the Merino sheep has relied upon its intrinsic value and the necessity of its inherent characteristics to American sheep raising conditions, to maintain a position as the most important factor in the sheep industry.

Unquestioned in superiority as a bearer of quantity and quality of wool, there seems a tendency in recent times of wool depression and the growing

importance of meat production to consider that the Merino sheep has served its purpose in American agriculture and live stock production. It may, therefore, not be amiss to note the course the Merino has travelled and consider if it has reached the point from which it will bid adieu to the land which has seen its greatest and most rapid improvement and benefited proportionally thereby.

The Merino's Position in Spain

Ancient history of the Merino, like that of most things other than political, appears dim and shadowy. It seems most probable that its ancestors first grazed the hills of Asia Minor, and accompanied the Star of Empire on its westward course. During the glorious times of the Roman Empire it found its way to Spain, and there remained the most prized possession of Spanish royalty and nobility during all the centuries until the fall of Spanish power permitted the disintegration and confiscation of their wealth. Royal edicts ever forbade the export of Merino sheep from Spain, thinking thus to maintain a monopoly upon the production of fine wool and thereby make their flocks a well guarded storehouse of Spanish wealth.

The disasters of the Napoleonic wars and fear of the destruction of their flocks by the Corsican's plundering soldiery forced these owners to transfer their sheep into less tangible and more portable property. A shrewd New England Yankee was consul at Lisbon at the time. William Jarvis saw the opportunity, and he made the most of it. Through his efforts within two years twenty thousand of the choicest Merinos in all Spain were

transplanted to the shores of that New World whose discovery had been made possible more than three centuries before by the wealth and enterprise of the rulers of this same "beautiful country of a blessed climate."

All the Merino sheep that ever came to America were Transhumantes, which means that the flocks from which they came were migratory; back and forth with the changing seasons they trailed from their summer ranges in the northern mountains to the winter pastures on the southern plains of their native land. Whether they were Paulars, Infantados, Guadaloupes, Negrettis, Escurials, names which signified the particular cabanas from which they came as well as their owners, they all carried those Merino characteristics which have improved the native flocks in every land to which they have gone. Time had made their blood prepotent above any other domestic animal.

They were much used to travel in large bands. Not always did they have the best feed nor in abundance. At times they encountered extremes of climate, both of temperature and of moisture. To such conditions had near twenty centuries been breeding and adapting them. To them only a temperate, equable climate and individual care were foreign. Changing conditions were a part of their life, and one of their excellencies was to adapt themselves to them. Their main purpose in life was to bear the largest possible number of fleeces of fine wool at the minimum expense of feed and care. The longer they lived and the less they ate the better could they fulfill their mission.

These sheep from Spain were most-

ly landed at north Atlantic ports, and found their way into New England and New York. Economic conditions were favorable to their reception. Fine wool was worth three to six dollars per pound. These sheep sold in flocks of one to two hundred at an average of \$100 to \$150 per head, while individual rams were sold at \$1,000 to \$1,500, and some were let at \$400 for the season. Never again but once, in the early 60's, did Merino sheep sell at such prices. While in five short years, consequent upon the collapse of woollen manufacturing and general business depression following the close of the War of 1812, good Merinos sold at one dollar a head. In the years that have followed periods of prosperity and depression have been contemporaneous with general business conditions.

Wool was the purpose of these early sheep, and because it was fine wool which made the finest fabrics and broadcloths it was the most valuable. When fickle fashion decreed that coarse cloths were correct or tariff revisions made American woollen manufacturing unprofitable Merino wool dropped quickly and far, its bearers brought little gold to their owners. Likewise, when opposite conditions prevailed there were times when the enthusiasm and excitement among Merino growers rivaled a Cripple Creek or a Klondike. The important fact is that in spite of all these varied conditions and periods of extremes the Merino sheep continued to make his impress upon the average flocks. The best breeders continued to improve her along the lines which they considered most profitable. Her blood was infused into that of practically every inferior and grade sheep on this continent.

Sheep have been maintained on American farms and pastures ever since the early days of its settlement, but history records that no marked improvement was made until the Merino came. During the century since her advent the weight of fleece of the common sheep has been increased three and one-half times. In that same time the weight of carcass has been nearly doubled, while now the market weight

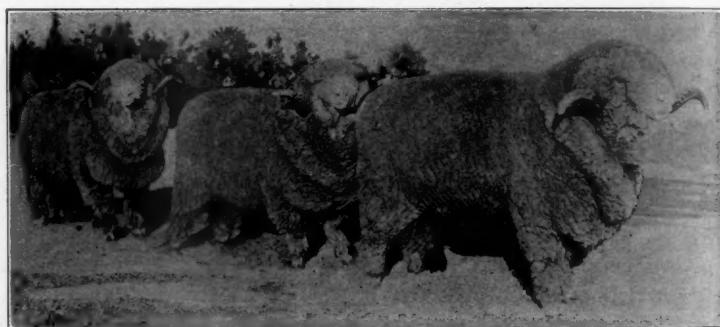
of a lamb at four to six months is as much as that of a sheep at as many years was then. The man who makes two blades of grass grow where before there was but one is regarded as a public benefactor, but how much more are these men who have improved and increased the production of wool and mutton.

Development in America

The development of the Merino sheep in America has been along various lines according to the location and the industrial conditions of the time. Broadly speaking there have been three great branches or eras of this development. First and foremost, both in point of time and because its results have been so great and far-reaching was that of what we choose to call the Vermont

known, how they advertised their wares before the days of modern publicity, how for years they made Middlebury the Mecca for all sheepmen, how their sheep went out to every part of this country, and then how they sent a wrinkly Merino ram to lead the way for American live stock to foreign lands across the seas, all this would take volumes, for it is the history of the American sheep industry in the nineteenth century. In the latter days of the popularity of the Vermont Merino many of the best flocks were found in New York, Ohio, and Michigan, and the influence in many parts of those states remains strong, even to the present day.

To gain an idea of the importance of the improvement that these Merino



The Western United States Style of Merino as Expressed Today by the Rambouillet.

Merino. The Delaine is found midway between the others, overlapping both in time and location of development as well as in breed characteristics, while the last quarter century has seen the advent and improvement of the Rambouillet. The ancestors of all these lines of breeding came from the same Spanish cabanas. Except the latter, the ultimate form in which they have appeared and by which they have secured to themselves distinct breed names has been almost wholly modeled and fashioned by American skill and genius in breeding.

To tell the story of how the Vermont Yankees took that fine-boned smooth, thin fleeced sheep from Spain and in three-quarters of a century transformed him into the oiliest, wrinkliest, heaviest-fleeced animal ever

breeders made, note these facts. They increased the weight of the fleece in rams from ten pounds to forty-four, in ewes from six to twenty-eight. They increased the percent of wool to live weight from 6 to 36. They increased the size 40 per cent, the length of staple 35 per cent. They refined the fleece by increasing the fineness, the evenness, and the freeness of the oil. They brought the Golden Fleece to its maximum. They made it sought by all the world.

While this development was proceeding there were some hard-headed, practical farmers in western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio who had a notion that a plainer sheep with more size and better form, with a fleece of more staple and a carcass that would supply good meat was a more practical,

profitable Merino. In those times wool seemed to be nearly the sole purpose of sheep, but along in the late 80's it declined in price, and a general demand for mutton was just beginning. People seem ever to want a change. The wrinkly Vermont Merino was everywhere known. The Delaine was a new Merino which many thought better adapted to the conditions of Central States and Western sheep growing. Her fleece, while not so heavy, was fine and long. It brought a high price per pound in the grease. The mature sheep brought a good price on the market. The Delaine became a popular sheep in many localities, and so still remains.

The French Merino in the West

Contemporaneous with the development of the Vermont and the Delaine Merinos in this country was that of the Rambouillet in France and Germany, its beginnings even ante-dating the former. The French and Germans sought a distinctly mutton Merino and generally speaking the improvement made was in respect to mutton rather than wool, although the latter was by no means neglected. Introduction of this blood into America in the middle of the last century resulted in the establishment of the French Merino on the Pacific Coast and the subsequent development of a type of sheep peculiarly adapted to those conditions. But it remained for their second introduction in the 90's to gain them entrance to the favor of the general farmer and sheep grower. Their American breeders have refined and improved them much. While softening the fleece and increasing the oil they have been cutting off some of the legs, curving the ribs, leveling the shoulders and back, filling up the hams, and maturing them more quickly. They have made good their claim as a mutton Merino. They have shown at the Illinois Experiment Station that none make better nor cheaper gains on pasture.

At various times in the development of American sheep raising have the many English breeds found favor, but the best results obtained from their use has ever been founded on the native stock which carried much or all Mer-

ino blood. There are districts so situated where such conditions prevail that a highly specialized branch of sheep raising, as winter lamb raising in Ohio and Virginia or fat lamb production in Washington and Idaho, requires an exclusively mutton sheep. But the general conditions under which most farmers and rangemen must work require a sheep which produces a good fleece as well as a profitable carcass; at the same time that sheep must easily adapt itself to the conditions under which it must live and thrive.

That a sheep bred with mutton as the sole purpose does not fulfill these requirements seems patent. The con-

er because Nature forbids, the latter because the character and expense of the labor to be obtained will not permit. Ideal conditions which may be desired are forbade by the exigencies of economy.

A characteristic of America and Americans is bigness and scope. Extent, breadth, instead of circumscribed intensive application of effort is the factor which appeals. The average farmer is no exception to the general rule. He prefers to farm many than much. So it is with his sheep. He wants a good-sized flock or he wants none. He insists that they require not too much care. Labor conditions com-



The Present Day Style of Merino in Australia.

ditions under which the English breeds are produced are so different from those which obtain in this country that one would do well to note them. The two greatest factors are climate and labor. To them may be attributed the fact that England is the single land in all the world which can find no place for Merino sheep. A moist climate, moderately warm and equable, which insures green feed the greater part of the year, combines with the most painstaking care given the flock in any country on the globe to produce rich juicy mutton chops and savory lamb roasts which brook no superior and but few equals. Neither of these can the American grower supply—the form-

pel the latter and bid fair to continue inexorable in their demands. All the conditions under which sheep are raised combine to form a situation which is peculiarly and distinctively American.

The general introduction of the English breeds into America at just the time when the Vermonter was at its highest fleece development and at the same time that fleece was declining in value and mutton finding place in the food supply of this nation, was propitious for their dissemination among American sheep growers.

Black faces and long wools took. No thought was given to the conditions under which they had been produced.

American farmers bought them, and proceeded to give them the care or lack of it to which they had accustomed their Merino flock. Attracted by the novelty and that insatiable desire of change which seems to be an American characteristic they crossed, and re-crossed, and new-crossed. The result of all this was in most cases disastrous, and many quit sheep raising because profitable results could not be thus obtained. Where it proved otherwise it was due to a recognition of the limitations and requirements for the successful handling of an exclusively mutton breed or of the necessity for at least a certain amount of Merino blood in the ewe flock. To this lack of care and failure to consider the adaptability of breeds to conditions under which they must be produced as well as the lack of constancy of purpose in breeding may be attributed most of the failure in profitable sheep raising on the farm.

Moulding of the Type

With the passing of this first boom in mutton sheep and the development of a Merino which did not mean a bundle of wrinkles and grease came a more reasonable attitude on the part of practical, far-seeing sheepmen in various branches of the business. There are sections where long association with Merinos and a realization of the value of those inherent characteristics which make them best adapted to general American conditions prevented their being discarded. The development of these flocks in producing practical marketable sheep of pure Merino blood showed such constancy and amount of profit in their conduct that sheep raising has there maintained a firm and increasingly important position in the farm curriculum as can be found in few sections where other breeds have displaced them.

Certain fundamental Merino characteristics are absolutely essential to general sheep raising, and the very fact that they are embodied in the Merino make it imperative that sufficient of that blood be maintained in the flock to retain them in proper proportion for maximum profit. Many market men

and close students of the industry are beginning to realize the importance of this fact. Successful sheep farmers and rangemen alike agree that whatever may be the form in which they market their product the ewe which produces it must carry all or at least a large predominance of Merino blood in her veins. In no other way can those qualities which make profitable growth in the flock be secured. That ease with which Merinos can be handled in any number and with which they adapt themselves to great and sudden changes in climate and feed, those qualities of freedom from resistance to disease, of hardiness, and of long life are characteristics which are essential and controlling factors in successful sheep raising and handling.

One of the ablest sheep salesmen on the Chicago market not long since remarked to me as we viewed a heterogeneous mixture of breeds embodied in a bunch of ewes trooping down the alley toward the scales that "the sooner sheep raisers get back to Merino ewes the more money they will make." Michigan farmers who have been pioneers in the sheep and lamb industry, have stayed with it through thick and thin, and have made good money thereby, are noted for their predilection for stock strong in Merino blood. They want it because it gives the best results. Abundant testimony of like purport abounds throughout the land, but the failure of the bearers to seek publicity of their views should not detract from its value and importance.

Backed by the ancestry of nineteen centuries of breeding guided by the leading men of their time, the distinctive characteristics so secured and intensified by both heredity and environment as in no other breed of domestic animals in all history, they came to the New World at the very beginning of her industrial growth and rapid as has been that development Merino sheep have kept pace in their improvement to meet the new demands imposed upon them.

American sheep breeders developed an oily wrinkly heavy-shearing Merino because it was the most profitable

in its time. When conditions changed the purpose and end of sheep from wool and coyote bait to mutton and human food, the change was so sudden that it found the greatest wool-bearer the world has ever seen unprepared to meet the new demand on the instant. Wrinkly, pelted old sheep do not make toothsome roasts or chops. Men concerned only with the marketing end of sheep and those who had little or no knowledge of the conditions under which sheep must be raised and handled, howled loud and long against anything that savored of Merino, and even yet some seem to have not clarified their minds of the old idea of what the word Merino denotes. They seem to think that the skill and genius which developed the great woolled Merinos in the last century was all expended in that effort and that the present generation lacks the ability to produce a Merino which meets twentieth century demands. Some men fail to realize not only the intrinsic merit of Merino blood but also the value and importance of the breeders of today.

While the inherent characteristics of Merino sheep have been firmly fixed by long centuries of constancy in breeding yet one of those very characteristics is the great plasticity by which the course of his improvement may be directed by human skill. In that direction none have shown greater ability than American breeders. When conditions made a wrinkly Merino most profitable American breeders developed that type to the maximum because that brought the coin. Now that conditions require more than wool alone we firmly believe that the modern plain, well-wooled Merino as developed by American breeders is the type to produce because it spells profit. Because Merino blood best meets general American conditions and by it sheep raising is thus made most profitable, it must continue to be required by the sheepmen who recognize the importance of both wool and mutton in making general sheep raising profitable and will continue the basis upon which the average sheepman on both farm and range must build his business.

With the State Associations

NEW WOOL POOLS IN WYOMING

Wool growers of Johnson County were the first in Wyoming to form a large wool pool. During the latter part of February wool growers in this county had pooled approximately 1,000,00 pounds of wool, which was to be offered at a sealed bid sale on March 11th. On account of the dullness in the wool market at the time the wool was offered for sale, buyers were not inclined to meet the ideas of growers as to value. Johnson County growers decided to continue the pool until after shearing, and it will be offered for sale some time during the early part of July.

Shortly after the organization of the Johnson County pool the flockmasters of Natrona County organized a pool along similar lines and now have over a million pounds of wool in the pool.

In both of these counties the pools have practically all of the wools that have not been already contracted for.

Growers in joining these pools agree that they will not contract or sell their wool until after it has been offered for sale by a committee, the sale to be by sealed bids. Each clip of wool will be sold individually and upon its merits and the owner of each clip will fix the reserve price thereon.

The committee in charge of the pool expect to have Professor Hill examine the wools and give them an estimate on grade and shrinkage, so that they may intelligently set their reserve price.

The advantage of this method of selling will be that wool will be concentrated in sufficient quantities to attract mill buyers. I believe that several other counties in the state will follow the example set by Johnson and Natrona Counties.

The weather has been so cold that grass is very backward. The weather during April in central Wyoming was very stormy, causing some loss in live stock.

Wool buyers are again becoming active, so any wool grower who sells his

wool before shearing, is almost certain to lose on the transaction.

J. B. Wilson

ASSOCIATIONS ISSUE MARKET LETTERS

Organized wool growers of California and Nevada are getting timely information upon markets. The only regular wool market letters previously published were over a week old when received and reached only a small number of sheepmen who were left dependent upon hearsay for fresh news of wool markets.

The California Association is also doing special work in instructing shippers as to procedure for co-operation with the railroads under the plan arranged for shortening the running time to Eastern markets.

The weekly letter of May 2 from the secretary's office is reproduced herewith:

Circular Letter No. 6, May 2, 1922.
California Wool Growers Association
Red Bluff, California.

LAMB SHIPMENTS

Following the information given in Circular Letters Nos. 4 and 5 (special service arranged with railroads in shipping lambs east), these railroads have arranged their service:

Western Pacific: Special service in shipping lambs east—connections being made with Union Pacific at Ogden via O. S. L. or with D. & R. G. W. from Stockton to Kansas City via C. B. & Q.

On line to Kansas City—good pasture at Lincoln and Red Cloud.

Western Pacific will put on extra caboose when there are four or more attendants in charge of shipments. Schedules furnished on application.

Sacramento Northern: State they will run special stock train from Woodland, Colusa, or Chico, with five or more cars of stock, to junction point with Western Pacific.

Denver & Rio Grande Western: Special service based on twenty cars or more.

Union Pacific: Present price of hay at Laramie: Prairie, \$30.00 per ton; alfalfa, \$35.00 per ton; east of Laramie: \$25.00 and \$30.00 respectively.

Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul: Kirkland Feeding Yards. Plenty of blue grass in fine condition. Can unload twenty-eight cars at a time. Drover's ticket is good on Pacific Limited, through service between Chicago and San Francisco.

Chicago and North Western R. R.: Regular schedule from Fremont or Valley to U. S. Yards, Chicago, 35 hours. Whenever there are five or more cars of sheep to be

moved from Rochelle to U. S. Yards they have arranged the through trains to stop at Rochelle and pick them up. Lots of fewer than five cars will be handled from Rochelle and Ashton on regular stock train leaving in evening. Loading is not done in heat of day.

The Southern Pacific has made a good suggestion: Don't load in odd number of single decks because in reloading at feeding stations to double decks you will be charged same rate on odd single decks as on the double decks.

Number of Carloads Shipped

Further reports of lamb shipments show that approximately 12,500 lambs left lower San Joaquin Valley for Chicago, Denver and the East between April 28th and May 1st, inclusive.

Lambs are starting to move from the Sacramento Valley—decks have been ordered for shipping about 16,000 lambs between April 29th to May 5th, inclusive, from Yolo or Glenn Counties to Eastern points.

Wool

Wool market has broadened this week. Buying is in greater volume—speculation has increased. Prices in low grade wools have risen 10 cents a scoured pound in a fortnight—half of the rise coming this week.

Salt Lake City, Utah.—Telegram received from the National Wool Growers Association, April 28th:

"Jericho pool, Utah, sold for 40c per pound, wool in the grease. This contains chiefly fine clothing and a 64 per cent shrink. Several clips were sold at Richfield, Utah, at 35c per pound.

Further information is as follows: The Jericho pool turned down an offer of 36½c on February 8th. When buyers thought wool would be consigned and in which case it would have to be bought in Boston at the market price later on, inside of 48 hours the 40c was offered.

Nevada—Heavy contracting in Elko County during past week from 30c to top price of 31½c. Practically all contracted in this county.

California: Tehama County. Buyers have been very active in this section during the past week. One large grower holding out for 40c a pound. Some wool sold from 33c to 35c a pound, wool in the grease.

Colusa County—Large clip sold for 31c per pound.

The following is representative of the letters being issued by the Nevada Live Stock Association:

CATTLE:

Fed cattle season practically over in Nevada. What fed beef remains is contracted.

California reports supply spring grass below normal and late; supply spring beef considered normal and month or more late; supply fed beef west of Colorado will be exhausted by time grass run is on in California; northwest expected to draw on California for beef after June 1; no surplus of beef expected in California for 1922, supply being below normal. Present market continues firm and outlook for grass cattle market particularly good.

Elko County, Nevada, reports few bunches of yearling steers changing hands at \$27.50 to \$30 per head, two's being reported sold from \$37.50 to \$40 per head. No stock cattle sales.

North Fork of Humboldt reports cattle can not be turned out for another month. Two feet frozen snow on meadows. In some sections Elko County started turning cattle out ten days ago on old feed. Excellent range year anticipated.

SHEEP:

Elko County reports contracting of lambs as follows: 55 pound lambs for fall delivery, \$5.50 per head; 75-pound lambs at \$7.50 per head.

Omaha reports by letter, April 24, that first California lambs sold at that market at \$16.50, weighing 66 pounds, with ten head out to the car at \$13. Best woolled lambs brought \$16.50 at Chicago the same day and \$15.25 at Omaha. Report says good market indicated and outlook for close to war-time prices.

California reports four cars early California lambs sold at Ogden for 18c, weighing 56 pounds. Sale at \$8.35 for 90 per cent at the ranch.

WOOL:

Boston market reported strengthening with prices firm, fine wools scarce and lower grades moving in good shape. Fine staple scoured Australia wools reported taken out of bond at \$1.50 clean basis. Jericho pool reported still holding for 40c. Solano County, California, reports sale past week at 33c.

Heavy contracting at Elko past week at prices of from 30c to top of 31½c. Elko County wool now reported practically all contracted.

WASHINGTON WOOL GROWERS ORGANIZE SERVICE CORPORATION

Announcement has just been made of the launching of the Wool Growers' Service Corporation, with headquarters at Yakima, and a capitalization of \$200,000. The incorporators are as follows:

T. J. Drumheller of Wall Walla, president of the Washington Wool Growers' Association and a sheepman with large interests in Grant and Walla Walla Counties; A. D. Dunn of Wapato, regent of Washington State College, and one of the foremost short horn breeders in the state of Washington; C. H. Anderson of Ellensburg, director of the Washington National Bank and a prominent sheepman of Kittitas County; Willis Mercer of Prosser, director of the Prosser State Bank and a pioneer sheepman of the lower Yakima Valley; T. H. Smith of Yakima, probably one of the oldest sheep and cattle men in eastern Washington; Archie Prior of Yakima, prominent sheepman and an extensive



W. P. Wing, Secretary of the California Wool Growers Association.



Mark J. Smith, Director of Wool Marketing, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation.

breeder of pure-bred Hampshires; J. F. Sears of Prosser, cashier of the Prosser State Bank and secretary of the Washington Wool Growers' Association.

The Wool Growers' Service Corporation will be privileged to place with the War Finance Corporation \$1,000,000 in long time loans on breeding stock of this state and many times that amount on feeder lambs and for the marketing of wool. It is expected that the new corporation will commence operations by June 1st and will have placed with the War Finance Corporation its full allotment of \$1,000,000 by July 1st.

It is claimed that the operations of the new institution will have a tendency to stabilize the hay market, encourage the production of corn and alfalfa in the Yakima Valley and develop winter feeding by selling to the farmers on credit, sheep and cattle. It will offer its service in the financing and marketing of the wool clip. It is understood that the wool will probably be marketed through Seattle, though Pasco and Portland interests will offer attractive inducements to have the wool assembled at Pasco and moved on barges down the Columbia River to Portland. It is stated, however, that Seattle business men have already shown great interest in the new corporation and are ready to provide such inducements as may be necessary to insure the marketing of the wool through Seattle.

The new corporation will furnish a home market to the range sheep and cattle men for their feeder lambs and steers which heretofore have gone to Chicago for redistribution among the corn belt states for finishing and fattening. It will provide the banks of this state a desirable outlet for surplus funds during the winter months. It will place in the hands of the livestock industry control of a financial organization that it is promised shall be operated at all times for their benefit. To the farmers of the Yakima Valley a large benefit will accrue by retaining the fertilizer yielded from feeding its crops at home, which will preserve and increase the fertility of their land.

Around the Range

COLORADO San Luis Valley

The sheepmen of the San Luis Valley are in very good spirits and all feel that the present season is going to be a profitable one. The winter was very mild, feed plentiful and cheap. Hay was about \$4 per ton, pea fields were to be had at the sheepman's price and as a result the sheep generally look better than in former years.

There has been a considerable movement in the lamb market, lambs being contracted for early October delivery at from 10c to 10½c, one bunch being contracted for \$10.70. About half of the Saguache lambs were sold at 10½c, the rest of them still being in the hands of the growers. The Canter, Del Norte and Monte Vista lambs have been sold with few exceptions.

Very few lambs were fed in the San Luis Valley during the past season and as a result the local feeders are going to be sure of getting some of the lambs for next winter.

Practically no sales of wool have been recorded, offers have been made but most of the growers feel that the market will be at least steady and possibly better as the season progresses. There is a movement on foot by the woolgrowers of the valley to establish a wool pool and a wool warehouse at some common point, probably Pueblo.

There have been several sales of stock sheep during the winter, the early sales at a low figure, while recent sales have looked very respectable.

Frank H. Means.

South Park, Colorado

The sheepmen of South Park have had probably the best winter in many years, with very little snow, or cold weather, and an abundance of feed. The sheep have come through in fine shape, and all things point to a bumper lamb crop. Nearly all the lambs in South Park have been contracted at

10c for October delivery, weighed at the respective ranches.

The wool, of which there is approximately 280,000 pounds, has not been sold, although several buyers have been around lately. South Park wool is of very good quality and is entirely free of burrs. It will grade the same or better than most Wyoming and Montana wool.

Herders' wages are \$35 a month and board. One or two are paying more, but after what the sheepmen have just been through, and with so many men wanting work it hardly seems policy to pay more than is necessary.

Como, Colo. Edward E. Mills.

MONTANA Central

This has been one of the severest winters on stock that we, in the central part of Montana, have ever witnessed. The fact that most stockmen had a two years' supply of hay on hand has caused them to bring their sheep through in good shape, but had they had only the one-year crop of hay, the losses would have been great.

Lambing is now in full swing and will continue for another month. Average good lambing is being done, although the long, hard winter has reduced the vitality of both ewes and lambs, and spring is late and backward.

There is a shortage of good, young ewes and very few are changing hands. The fine-wooled sheep predominate.

The indications are that labor will be plentiful. Herders are being paid \$40 to \$50 per month, according to conditions under which they work. Ranch labor seems to be easy to obtain at \$40 to \$45 per month.

It is expected that the wool crop will be on the light order, and it seems that most of the sheepmen do not favor consigning at this time, but will either sell when the wool is shorn or else con-

sign to the National Wool Warehouse and Storage Company at Chicago. Offers of forty cents per pound have been received and refused for some of the choice clips. A. C. Grande. Lennep, Mont.

Northeastern

May first finds us with green grass just starting. We have had a cold wet spring, with several local storms. Most of the stock is thin, and there has been quite a heavy loss in aged ewes and straw-fed cattle. Well-wintered sheep that went on the range April first do not at this date show the feed and care they received. This proves that the old range feed did not have the same amount of nourishment as in past years.

Lambing just started in this section. A lower percentage of lambs will be docked this spring than during the two past seasons.

Conditions in general look favorable. The present price of feeders and the wool outlook are encouraging. There will be a big demand for young ewes at a good price. The sharp turn in the road is past. We can see a straighter stretch ahead than for some time past. If we hold a tight line now the next turn will not be so financially dangerous.

Armstrong & Stephens.

Saco, Mont.

Eastern

In eastern Montana we have just passed through the worst winter we have ever experienced. The snow came early and remained on the ground all winter. Storms were frequent and severe and the weather extremely cold, necessitating the longest feeding season we have ever had; but fortunately there was a good supply of hay in the country and this we fed with shelled corn.

We have had a backward spring with lots of rain and snow, making the roads

practically impassable so that we have had our troubles in getting supplies out for lambing. With the good supply of moisture in the ground, it promises a good grass crop, but the weather has been so cold that it grows very slowly.

Lambing will begin in a few days with very little grass. All conditions indicate a poor lambing. Notwithstanding the discouraging conditions under which we have worked for the last two years and the low prices of wool and lambs in 1920 and 1921, the business is looking better. We expect to get a fair price for our wool this season and a good many lambs have been contracted for fall delivery at 9 cents.

This part of the country is very short of young ewes and some are changing hands at good prices. G. B. Pope.

Miles City, Mont.

CALIFORNIA

Western

We have had one of the hardest winters on live stock that has hit this country for several years.

Sheep are run mostly in pastures here, varying in size from a few acres to several hundred, and the size of the bands corresponds to the size of the ranches. Herders, shelter and feed are strangers to the sheep. Therefore, it is a case of the "survival of the fittest," when a hard winter comes along, like the past one. Taking the county as a whole, the increase will about make the old stock good.

Shearing is just commencing (April 28th). I have heard of contracts being offered for wool up to 37 cents, but the sheepmen prefer to wait until their product is ready. The price for shearing has not been set yet, but will be around 10 to 12½ cents, including board for blade shearing. Machines are used very seldom here. There have not been any sales of sheep lately, so it is hard to figure what their price will be. However, I think there will be very few sales in this section. Feed is not growing on account of the cold dry

weather. Unless rain comes soon, there will be a big shortage of grass and crops, and consequently, thin sheep this fall. The coyote is still with us, but through the efforts of a few good hunters, with well-trained hounds and traps, they are kept under control. Scabies has broken out in many places.

H. J. June.

Boonville, Calif.

Northern

We have had a very cold, dry and backward winter and spring. Consequently the feed is short and will be worse this fall when we come off the mountains with the sheep. Grain crops will be below the average.

The lamb crop also will be a little below the average. There seems to be no set wages for mountain herders. From \$60 to \$75 per month will be about the range. All sheep sheared lightly this spring. Shearing was done at ten to twelve cents for the blade and 13 cents for machine.

Ewes and lambs in pairs have sold as high as \$11, unshorn. Fat lambs are in demand for contract sales. A great many will be shipped east. The top price that I have heard of is \$9 per head. Other prices range from ten to twelve cents per pound. Wool has sold in the last few days from 30 to 34 cents, delivered at the railroad.

Flournoy, Calif.

Jesse Wolcott.

Central

We have had about 10 inches of rain in this section (Coaling, Calif.) After the first rain we had about thirty-five or forty days of very cold weather, but after March 5th, the temperature moderated and since then we have had very good weather. At present we have plenty of feed and it looks as if this is going to be the very best year since 1914.

Some wool has been sold around here all the way from 20 to 30 cents. Only one clip was sold at 20 cents, while about 50,000 fleeces brought from

25 to 30 cents. There has been no contracting for the last twenty days.

Old ewes have been sold from \$6.50 to \$8.50. Some yearling ewes have been sold at \$8.50, but most of the men are asking \$10.00 for them shorn. Wethers are bringing from \$9.50 to \$11, and lambs, from \$7 to \$8.75. I believe about 90 per cent of the lambs have been contracted.

Wages range from \$50 to \$60. Shearing is costing 10 and 11 cents for blade work and from 15 to 17 cents for machine, the 17 cents including sacks.

Coalinga, Calif.

J. P. Lorda.

WEST TEXAS

I have enjoyed the National Wool-grower and consider the letters from different parts of the sheep country the most interesting part of the magazine. I am always glad to see something from our part of the world.

We, west Texas sheepmen, think we have the best country for sheep and goats. Our wool and lambs will favorably compare with any in the West. Our range has been ideal for the past thirty days and the prospects at this time (May 1st), are the best in several years. We had ten inches of rain during April which insures plenty of grass for the entire summer. Many flocks of sheep have changed hands in Schleicher and Sutton Counties at satisfactory prices. Among the transactions were 900 mutton goats at \$3.25 per hundred and 1,400 mutton sheep at \$6 per hundred. Good ewes are bringing \$7 per hundred. The twelve-months' wool clip is selling from 27 to 32 cents per pound. Goat shearing was completed a month ago. Sheep shearing is just beginning, with shearers charging eight or nine cents. The lamb crop was poor, only averaging fifty per cent owing to weather conditions in the early spring. No lambs have yet been contracted for fall delivery.

F. B. Gunn,

Eldorado, Texas.

Rations For Finishing Western Lambs

Results of Feeding Tests in Three States—Home Finishing of Western Lambs Found Profitable

Every sheep man is benefited by experiments in lamb fattening conducted during the past winter by Western agricultural experiment stations. The finishing of more range lambs at home is doubly advantageous to their raisers. By limiting the stock yards' receipts as largely as possible to fat lambs during the heavy shipping season improvement in marketing conditions is secured. Selling thin lambs to feeders near home helps community progress through utilization of hay and grain. It evades the freight toll on feed that would otherwise be shipped out and also upon the feeder lambs. Most of the lambs now finished west of Colorado are needed on the Pacific coast. Trailing to the farms where the feed is grown and shipping to the coast means much less expense than joy riding to Eastern stock yards, then to the country and back to market again for sale and slaughter.

Twenty-seven combinations of feed for fattening were used with a total of 1,300 lambs in the tests reported in this article as conducted by the experiment stations in Washington, Idaho and Nebraska.

RESULTS FROM WASHINGTON FEEDS

The Washington tests, which were planned by Professor Howard Hackerdorn, were conducted at the branch station at Prosser, in the Yakima Valley under the immediate direction of Mr. R. P. Bean.

Seven hundred head of cut-back lambs were fed in fourteen lots in a test extending over 60 days. These lambs averaged 63 pounds in weight at the first of January and were all sired by Hampshire rams and out of cross-bred ewes. At the close of the experiments, they averaged 80.4 pounds. The entire lot was sold at auction at \$12.50 per hundredweight to Frye & Co., of Seattle. Following the sale, a committee of buyers made separate appraisals on each of the 14 lots upon the basis that those most highly finished should be valued at \$12.50 per hundredweight. These appraisals showed a variation from that figure to as low as \$11.25, in the case of one lot fed on a minimum ration of grain.



The Experimental Feed Yards at Prosser, Washington.

The feeds used were valued at the following figures: Alfalfa hay, (first cutting), \$5 per ton; shelled corn, \$27.40 per ton; cottonseed meal, \$55 per ton; beat molasses, \$14.80 per ton, and corn silage, \$2.50.

Experiment 1—First, second and third cuttings alfalfa hay.

The three lots used in this test were fed an average daily ration of three-fourths pound of corn in addition to all the alfalfa hay they would consume. The largest gains were obtained from the first cutting and the next largest from the third cutting. Considering the value of the lambs at the close of the test and the amount of feed used, and allowing \$5 per ton for hay of the first cutting, the value of the third cutting was \$3.93 per ton and of the second, \$2.87 per ton.

Experiment 2—Sweet clover vs. alfalfa hay.

The same amount of grain was fed with the sweet clover hay as was used in Experiment 1. The gain was larger than that made by any of the alfalfa fed lots, although the waste of the hay was also higher. By comparison with

first cutting alfalfa at \$5, the sweet clover returned \$5.77 per ton.

Experiment 3—Light, medium and heavy corn ration.

Decision as to the amount of grain to be fed in fattening rations must always rest upon current prices. With the values of corn and alfalfa as stated above, the present year was shown to be one calling for liberal grain feeding. One lot which received an average of $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of corn per head daily in addition to all the alfalfa they would consume, made a daily gain of .35 pounds per head. The daily gain on other lots used in this test declined to .22 pounds per head for the lot fed $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. This latter lot was also fed at \$1.20 per hundred less than the heavy fed lot and returned \$1.18 less net profit for the hundred.

Experiment 4—Corn silage and alfalfa vs. alfalfa.

In the silage test a grain ration of $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of corn was used and $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of silage were fed in addition to hay ad lib. The silage fed lot made slightly larger gains and at a cost of .7 cents per pound less than the all

hay lot. The degree of finish was the same in both cases. In a duplicate test in which three-fourths of a pound of corn was used, comparative results were the same, but the silage fed lambs were slightly inferior in finish. Large gains, however, were made in this case at a cost of \$1.50 per hundred less than in the all hay lot.

Experiment 5—Beet molasses vs. corn.

The daily ration of $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of molasses produced slightly larger gains than the same weight of corn. The lower price of molasses resulted in a considerable economy, as the lambs were fed at 25 cents per hundredweight less than those receiving corn. The test indicated that with corn at \$27.40 and alfalfa at \$5, molasses may be worth up to \$20 per ton as a part of the concentrated feed.

RETURNS FROM COMBINATIONS OF IDAHO FEEDS

The Idaho lambs, fed at the branch station at Caldwell, included 480 head. The objects were

1. To compare various grains—barley, corn and wheat.
2. To compare cut and long alfalfa hay.
3. To compare a light against a heavy feed of corn silage.

4. To determine results of deferring grain 30 days.

The lambs used were sired by long woolled rams and out of first cross ewes, and were received on October 5, at an average weight of 56 pounds. They were run on pasture with a feed of alfalfa hay each night until November 17th, making an average gain of .35 pounds per day. The ration tests extended over 73 days with 70 lambs in each of six lots.

The lambs were charged with all hay put out, although about 20 per cent was not eaten. Uncut alfalfa was figured at \$5 per ton; cut alfalfa at \$7; corn silage at \$4; barley at 90 cents per hundred; corn at \$1.25; wheat at \$1.25, and oats at \$1.15.

Barley, Corn and Wheat

The corn-fed lambs gained 26 pounds, and the barley lot 24 pounds,

as compared to 23 pounds from a mixture of three parts wheat and one part oats. The higher cost of the corn, however, made the gains cost about one-half cent more per pound than with the barley. The gains from wheat and oats cost one cent more than from the corn. Uncut hay was used for these lots.

Alfalfa, Cut and Uncut

Thirteen per cent of the cut hay was wasted and twenty per cent of the long hay. Barley was fed both lots, and the long hay lot made the highest gain of $23\frac{1}{2}$ pounds per head, at a cost of 5.16 cents per pound as compared with 6.1 cents with cut hay. An extra charge of \$2 per ton was made for cutting.

Heavy and Light Silage Rations

Barley and uncut hay were fed two lots used to compare heavy and light rations of corn silage. The heavy silage ration produced an extra gain of five pounds per lamb at a reduced cost of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent per pound. The lot receiving the heavy silage ration was fed about $2\frac{3}{4}$ pounds of silage per head daily as compared to $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds in the other lot, and consumed about one-third less of hay.

Shortened Grain Feeding Period

Grain feeding was deferred for 30 days with one of the lots receiving barley and uncut hay. The gains made were practically the same but more hay was eaten.

The entire lot of lambs brought \$15.25 per hundred at Chicago on February 22nd. Their selling weights were five pounds less than when loaded at Caldwell and five pounds more than when unloaded at Kirkland on February 16th.

THE NEBRASKA STATION'S FINDINGS

This year's report from Nebraska summarizes three years' tests with the same rations, including 540 lambs in six lots with which the average feeding period was 101 days. The lambs were put in at an average weight of 53 pounds and marketed at 84 pounds.

The investigators report that on an average 100 pounds of gain on lambs require 400 pounds of corn and 300

pounds of alfalfa hay. They state that the addition of silage to an alfalfa and corn ration did not increase the gains or lower their cost. This disagreement with the Idaho results arises in part from the fact that the average price placed upon the Nebraska silage used in the three years was \$6 per ton and upon alfalfa \$15 per ton. Corn is charged at 75 cents per bushel; oil meal at \$63 per ton and molasses meal at \$30 per ton.

Silage With Alfalfa and Corn

The lots that ate silage with alfalfa and corn made an average daily gain per head of .324 pounds while those getting no silage gained .34 pounds. The feed cost of the gain was \$7.62 per hundred in the first case and \$7.01 on the corn and alfalfa alone. The silage lots ate slightly less corn, and fifty pounds less of alfalfa for each one hundred pounds gained. The silage amounted to about one pound per head daily.

Molasses Meal

About 3 ounces per day of molasses meal was fed to one of the lots in each of the three years. The gain per lamb was increased two pounds but the cost of the gain increased .4 cents per pound. When the same amount of molasses meal was used along with silage to the extent of one pound per day slightly less corn was eaten and the hay eaten decreased from one pound to .8 of a pound per day. The cost of gains was one-half cent per pound more than in the other molasses meal lot which received no silage.

Linseed Oil Meal

The lambs receiving linseed meal, two ounces per day, ate the most corn and gained 39 pounds each, compared to 34 pounds by the corn and alfalfa fed lambs. The linseed meal, however, made the gains cost 7.33 cents per pound, one-half cent more than from the corn and alfalfa ration.

Have you paid your 1922 dues? If not, payment at this time will be most acceptable.

Developments in Western Wool Selling Methods

Discussion of changes in wool selling methods employed in range states dates from the first trailing of sheep from the new domains of Spain toward American soil. Visitors from countries that compete with us in the wool market have been emphatic in expressing their surprise at methods to which Western United States adheres in preparing wool for market and in effecting sales.

Our wool growers may admit, without reflection upon their business ability, that there is a good deal that is ancient and inadequate in getting their clips from the range to the mill. At the bottom of the matter lies the fact of the non-existence of an American land policy. The free and unregulated and unsecured use of the public domain has had some advantages, but because of the lack of certainty of continuation, the business of wool growing, heretofore largely conducted upon public lands, has been unable to observe or adopt many of the business practices that have meant so much to manufacturing industry and also to the agriculture of the farming sections.

The land problem does not seem to be nearing a constructive solution, but time and natural and commercial selections are doing their work. The strictly grazing areas are coming to be recognized as such. More acres are coming under the control of those engaged in the pastoral industry, and the range live stock business, in reduced proportions, is assuming a more permanent phase.

Departures From Old Methods

The old methods were the best of their time, but many of them are now clearly seen to be unsuited to producers' needs under new conditions. Apparently it has long been recognized that the selling of wool called for something better than transactions between individual producers, who naturally cannot be fully posted on trade conditions, and the large corporations located at points of concentration and sale. In the selling of cattle and sheep a system is firmly established that places representatives of the producers at the markets to make

the sales and to work for higher values. A similar plan operates for wool in other countries, but cannot be said to have been adopted in this country except in the handling of farmers' clips.

Probably the first concerted movement to set up a new wool selling plan was one launched in 1901 as the Associated Wool Growers Company which handled two and one-half million pounds in 1902. For some reason the Associated Wool Growers' Company did not continue. Possibly the financing was at fault or those behind it were not situated to make the continued effort and survive the discouragements that always confront progress. However, in 1909 another movement was launched by Wyoming and Montana growers in conjunction with Chicago interests, under the name of the National Wool Warehouse and Storage Company. This was an innovation in two respects: it proposed to store and merchandise wools at Chicago and it operated entirely on a commission and non-speculative basis. On both counts it drew strong fire, but through a large share of good and evil reports it is today an important factor. Many growers agree that this concern's greatest service has been rendered by maintaining an alternative to the course of selling at home, although it has over eight per cent of the American clip in a single season. Such service, though very tangible, does not build up or strengthen producers' representation at the market.

Substitution of Australian styles of shearing, handling and selling wool for existing practices was demonstrated and ardently advocated by J. E. Cosgriff of Salt Lake and others associated with him. Revolution was apparently not to take place and the longer, slower and expensive process of evolution was left to shape the grower's relation to his wool beyond the sheep.

Post War Developments

One war year of government control of wool put all upon a consignment basis and with generally good results. Possibilities in advancing markets of the

next year was more attractive to the trade than the commission business and selling 'as a clip' and 'direct to the dealer' was resumed and continued until the market was disrupted on May 20, 1920, when the commission plan was reinstated. In 1921, with large debts and low wool prices, most growers were ready to accept any plan or offer that meant a few actual dollars. Realizing the position of their clients some bankers co-operating with officers of wool growers' organizations successfully attempted to furnish an alternative to the plan of making forced sales at home. Three million pounds of Montana wool and nearly a million pounds of the Utah clip were placed under control of growers' selling committees. Financing of advances was done by home bankers and the selling in both cases effected by the National Wool Warehouse Company. California handled a million pounds through a newly established warehouse managed by growers. The above undertakings added to by the older and more generally adopted co-operative system of Ohio and other central states made up a total of 27 million pounds contributed by twenty-one states in 1921 to be sold in accordance with the principles of orderly marketing. It does not now seem possible to foresee just what is to be evolved as a final working plan of selling and distributing range clips. That something besides individual selling at home is desired is evidenced by what has already been done. The feeling is spreading to new sections, apparently in response to legislation and country wide agitation to encourage co-operative selling as a means of bringing producer and consumer nearer together for mutual advantage. In Wyoming, Idaho, and other states new combinations of growers are acting to concentrate large amounts of wool to secure competition among buyers. In some cases pools are formed, in others the assembled clips are sold separately but in a time sufficiently limited to offer an opportunity for buyers to make large purchases quickly and at lessened expense. With what has been attempted and what has been accomplished in the

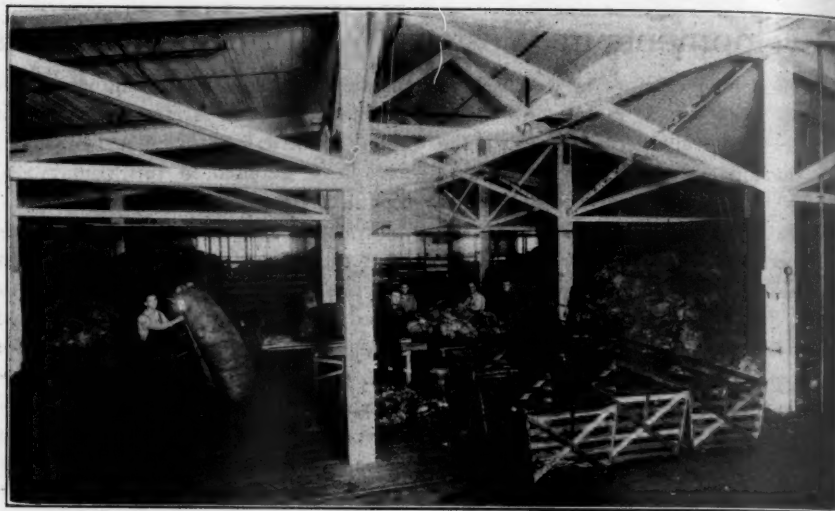
past, added to by new endeavors of the present season the situation is more interesting than ever before and more likely to involve permanently improved practices.

A brief resume of the status of wool selling undertakings in some of the Western states concludes this discussion.

The Jericho Pool

About ten years ago wool growers in the vicinity of Jericho came to an agreement upon a plan of combining a number of clips to be sold as one lot. The offering was large enough to attract competition. Jericho is one hundred miles southwest of Salt Lake City. The town, or to speak more correctly, the place, consists of a shearing pen of thirty-two stands for machine shearers, a holding shed, a boarding house, two cottages for railway section hands, a water tank and a pond filled from the tank. Wool shed there is none, neither is there a station agent. Jericho was selected because of its location on the railroad at a point convenient of access for the bands on their way from the winter range to the summer grazing lands. The owners live chiefly in Fountain Green and Nephi, towns farther east. The sheep of the section are practically all of Merino blood without mixture, very little crossing having been done. No cross-bred clips are admitted to the pool. On account of the uniformity of the clips a pool price has been satisfactory to the owners. The large amount, 800,000 pounds, has attracted buyers and on account of the fact that the sale comes before shearing time in the territory further north, it has come to be regarded and awaited as an index of the condition of the market and what can be expected by those selling at a later time.

In 1919 the Jericho pool was sold for 45 cents per pound. In 1920 it was disposed of for 71 cents, only a short time before the market collapsed. The pool was not sold as a unit in 1921, as a majority voted against acceptance of the highest offer received, 17 cents. Bids were called for on the 1922 pool, to be received on February 8th. A large manufacturer offered 36 $\frac{1}{8}$ cents, but



Grading Wool Handled by Pacific Co-operative Wool Growers.

the offer was rejected. On April 26, an offer of 40 cents, made by Hallowell, Jones and Donald, Boston dealers, was accepted. The pooled wools were considered to be principally of the fine clothing grade and to have an average shrink of 63 or 64 per cent.

The following agreement was signed by about fifty owners of the clips making up this year's pool:

Wool Pool Agreement

"For the purpose of more successfully marketing our wool, we the undersigned wool growers hereby enter into an agreement, one with another, to pool our 1922 wool clip and name the following as members of the selling committee: Peter Jacobson, George E. Cook, George E. Collard.

"As members of this pool we further agree to comply with and be bound by the following rules and regulations:

"1. The selling committee is hereby authorized to advertise said wool for sale and receive bids on same at the Bank of Fountain Green, Fountain Green, Utah.

"2. Whenever, in the opinion of the selling committee, a fair and bonafide bid has been received, said selling committee shall call together the signers of this pool and present said bid for their approval. Members may be represented at this meeting by proxy.

"3. A majority of the wool represented at the above mentioned meeting shall have power to authorize the selling committee to accept or reject any and all bids.

"4. We absolutely disapprove of bids

being made offering a reduced price for that class of wool usually classed as 'Tags'.

"5. All pooled wool must be shorn before lambing.

"6. All bids must contain a clause offering, at least, ten cents per pound advance on the wool offered in this pool.

"7. This pool may be terminated at any time whenever a majority of the wool represented show by vote that they favor termination.

"With full confidence in each other and with mutual and individual respect for the agreement into which we have entered, we hereunto subscribe our names and the approximate number of pounds of wool we enter in the pool."

Pools in Other Western States

Idaho: In the vicinity of Sugar City, in what is now Fremont County, and portions of adjoining counties, wool growers have for fifteen years followed the plan of combining their clips for sale. In some seasons the pool has been sold by consignment and at other times sales have been made at home. Usually about 150,000 fleeces have been included. Most of the members are also farmers and only once or twice has any grower sold independently after having joined the pool. The pool for 1922 was not organized until after several former members had contracted their clips. About 40,000 fleeces were included in the sale effected by the committee late in March at prices ranging from 27 to 30 cents.

At Idaho Falls another pool has been organized this year by sixty growers whose clips total one-half million pounds. The contract signed by the growers names a committee of five to conduct the business and receive bids. Sales are to be made upon the agreement of owners of three-fourths of the wool represented. At the first of May a sale had not been effected.

In the vicinity of Boise, about one-half million pounds of wool, chiefly farmers' clips, was handled in 1921 by a selected committee, the selling being done subsequent to grading and returns made on the basis of the accepted bid for each grade and for the amount of each grade actually contributed.

Utah: In addition to the Jericho pool Utah has another famous offering of wool at Parowan, in the southern part of the state. Sixty-nine owners combined in offering 64,000 fleeces of this year's wool under terms of the following signed agreement:

"We, the undersigned sheepmen of Iron County, mutually agree to pool our 1922 clip of wool on the following terms: We agree to pool our entire 1922 wool clip and place the same in the hands of the following committee: James C. Robinson, Jr., Wilford Day and Jos. B. Dalton. Said committee having been chosen for this purpose at a meeting of the Iron County Wool-growers' Association held Sunday, January 22, 1922. We delegate to said committee the right to sell or otherwise dispose of said wool with power of attorney to sell or otherwise dispose of said wool without further notice to us.

"We further agree that if we or either of us sell our wool without written consent of the entire committee we will forfeit 5 cents per pound on our entire 1922 clip of wool, said forfeit to go into the treasury of Iron County Wool-growers' Association."

The Parowan pool was sold on April 20th at 34 cents to a manufacturing concern.

A state-wide wool marketing plan was set up in 1921 by joint action of the Utah Wool Growers' Association, the State Farm Bureau, and of Salt Lake and Ogden bankers. About one million pounds was disposed of during

the fall months at prices that netted contributors several cents per pound more than could have been obtained early in the season. Most of the clips were graded and sales' reports made upon the basis of graded values.

A similar plan has been adopted for the present year with assurance that if a sufficient amount of wool is received it will be concentrated and offered for sale in a warehouse at Salt Lake City.

California: The plan evolved by California to secure modern selling service is not a pool. A number of growers subscribed stock, formed a corporation known as the Northern California Wool Warehouse Company. The warehouse is operated under license from the Federal government. The contract obligates the grower for three years at a cost of $1\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound, which covers unloading, storage and insurance until February 1. This payment is made in case clips are sold independently. If more than one million pounds is received at the warehouse this charge is one cent per pound. Prior to sale day sample bags from each clip are opened, each owner files his reserve price and sealed bids are received from the buyers on a day set for selling. Unsold wools are then graded at an additional cost of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent per pound, which includes the charge for making a sale. In 1920 over a million pounds was handled, of which one-third was held for grading. A larger amount is to be handled this year and bids will be received about May 20th.

Texas: At San Angelo a warehouse somewhat similar to that in Northern California has been in operation for several years. Under the auspices of the Texas Farm Bureau Federation an organization was formed to be known as the Southwestern Farm Bureau Wool and Mohair Growers Co-operative Association. Over six hundred growers have contracted with the Association for the selling of their clips. The contract is binding for five years for all the wool produced by the grower in that time, under penalty of a payment of five cents per pound upon any wool produced by a member and marketed by any other

means. The association is given full power to grade and sell the wools and payment is made at the average price received for each grade in the year's receipts. All expense is deducted pro rata from the returns made.

Wyoming: The National Wool Warehouse and Storage Company has received its support very largely from growers living along the line of the Union Pacific railway in the western part of the state. This year efforts at pooling have been inaugurated at Buffalo and Casper and the plan is being considered by Cokeville growers. The Buffalo pool comprises over one-half million pounds. A larger amount is expected to be received at Casper and handled under the plan of offering individual clips for sealed bids.

Montana: Over three million pounds of the 1921 clip was received and sold through the Montana Wool Acceptance Company, an organization formed by the State Wool Growers' Association. Through this company, in which home bankers were represented, advances were provided. The wools were forwarded to Chicago for storage, grading when necessary, and for sale. The amount handled was disposed of at an average net price of five cents per pound more than was obtainable at shearing time. The same plan is in operation this year with assurance of an increased volume of business.

At Dillon, Montana, a company formed by wool growers constructed a warehouse in which one and three-quarter million pounds was handled in 1921. The selling was principally effected by offering individual clips under the sealed bid plan.

Similar selling methods have been followed for some years at Miles City and other points in eastern Montana.

Oregon and Washington: Nineteen hundred wool growers in sections of the northern states lying tributary to Portland have contributed to building up the Pacific Co-operative Wool Growers. The agreement with growers is similar to that described as adopted by the Texas organization. This Portland concern op-

erates scouring bowls for testing shrinkage of wools handled and has proven its efficiency in warehousing and grading, and in selling. A part of its wools are disposed of to mills located in coast cities. The success achieved by the management in handling farmers' clips

has attracted the attention of larger owners and a large patronage from the range sections of the Northwest is assured. At Portland there is also the Western Wool Warehouse Company, under growers' control, and the Colum Basin Wool Warehouse Company.

Sheep Affairs in Australia and New Zealand

Melbourne, March 20th.

Sheepmen in America will be interested to hear that Australian Merino breeders are at last moving to establish an official flock register. That such should be done has been widely advocated for many years but until quite recently the idea met with strong opposition by certain leading breeders. Probably the insistent demand of foreign buyers for authentic published records is instrumental in bringing about the change in front. Anyhow the compilation of the register is now receiving the support of those who first opposed it. That there should ever have been any objection must seem extraordinary to breeders in other countries, especially when it is pointed out that practically every other breed in Australia has its flock book.

The provisional committee appointed to inaugurate the compilation and publication include some of the most noted Merino breeders in Australia. All belong to New South Wales, no doubt, because the scheme is being fathered by the New South Wales Sheepbreeders Association. That must not be taken to indicate that the register will be confined to one state, although it is at present difficult to say to what extent it will be supported by breeders who are not members of the association.

It is significant that the last date for receiving entries into the first volume has been extended from March 1 to April 1, which seems to point the movement not receiving unqualified support. As a matter of fact it is currently reported that some important breeders in other states have expressed their determination to stand out, and there is talk of forming local state registers, which would be a pity from every point of view.

The regulation governing entry into

the first volume of "A Register of Stud Merino Flocks in Australia," as the book is to be called, provides that the owner shall furnish the committee with a history of his flock, stating (a) from whom originally obtained, (b) how long it has been in his possession, (c) the number of ewes originally purchased, (d) what additions have been made to the flock from time to time from other flocks, (e) the breeding of all rams used in the flock. Another regulation provides that "no flock will be eligible for entry in the register unless passed by the committee." This rule is said to be sticking in the throats of some interstate breeders, who are chary of delivering themselves entirely into the hands of New South Wales men.

Speaking broadly the wool market remains at a satisfactory level. Values for the finer counts are perhaps a shade lower than a month ago but there is little cause for complaint, especially as the demand is firm and good clearances are being effected at every sale. Really high class Australian Merinos are still fetching 60 cents a pound and over, while oddments suitable for Continental requirements are relatively quite as high. Another healthy feature is the improved buying of cross-breds, medium qualities being 10 to 15 per cent and coarse 5 per cent dearer than at the February series. American operators have lately been much more cautious in their purchasing. Uncertainty regarding the tariff is said to be the reason.

Owing to packers having reduced their buying limits fat lambs and sheep values have receded somewhat from the highest point touched in February. On the other hand breeders and stores are particularly firm, which shows that graziers, at all events, have confidence in the future. Average fat wethers,

fit for the export or local trade, are today fetching up to \$5.30 per head and lambs to \$5.10 in the Commonwealth. In New Zealand prime Canterbury wethers are worth \$4.70 to \$5.65 and lambs about the same figure.

Such Australian packing houses as are operating at the present time are confining their attention almost entirely to mutton. It does not pay to touch cattle at any price on account of the deadness of the overseas market for frozen beef. Lambs are a good buying proposition but the supply of suitable weights for export purposes is pretty well exhausted. Shippers are purchasing wethers in the open market on the basis of 6½ cents to 7 cents per pound, live weights. Practically all the New Zealand meat works are killing both sheep and lambs. The offerings there are hardly coming up to expectations, especially in the North Island, where heavy rains in January and early February have prevented stock from fattening as rapidly as they might have done under more normal conditions. Taking New Zealand all through it may be said that the lambs and sheep are hardly up to the high standard attained by meat from there.

Particulars of the Meat Export Control Act, the measure that establishes the export meat pool in New Zealand, have come to hand. The act gives a board of control, comprising five representatives of the producers' interests, two government nominees, and one representative of the stock salesmen, extraordinarily wide powers. For instance it may, or may not, as its discretion, take absolute or limited control over any meat. Meat over which the board assumes absolute control has to be graded and shipped as the board directs, and can be disposed of only by the board, or by its direction, in such a manner as it may determine. Where the board assumes limited control the extent of the control shall be defined by notice, or by agreement between the board and the owners of the meat. Further the board has power to make arrangements for and give such directions as it thinks fit in the following matters—

(a) For the grading, handling, pooling, and storage of meat in New Zealand.

land prior to shipment.

(b) For the shipment of such meat, on such terms, and in such quantities, as it thinks fit.

(c) For the sale and disposal of meat on such terms as it thinks advisable.

(d) For the insurance against loss of any such meat, either in New Zealand or in transit, and until disposed of.

(e) Generally for all such matters as are necessary for the due discharge of its functions in handling, distributing, and disposing of New Zealand meat.

One can hardly wonder that the old established proprietary companies, which have spent decades in building up their businesses on individual lines, object to such discretionary powers being given to a board, in the election of which they have had no real say.

Although the board is fully constituted it had not started to control exports or stocks of meat in the Dominion when the last mail left. The general opinion then was that it would not attempt to do anything while the overseas market for frozen mutton and lamb remained at the existing high level. Any interference with exports now, or diversion from the ordinary trade channels, might cause a collapse. That is a possibility that no government or board dare face. The only definite move that has been made is the imposition of a levy of two cents per carcass on all mutton and lamb, and one cent per quarter of beef shipped from New Zealand. This is to meet the expenses of the board. A. C. Mills.

ATTEMPT TO DEFRAUD GOVERNMENT OF WOOL DUTIES

Several weeks ago it became known that customs officers had detected attempts to avoid payment upon wools being imported from Montevideo, South America. It was reported that the case involved a Philadelphia firm and that \$500,000 had been offered as settlement.

The Philadelphia Textile Association voted to urge that the names of the guilty parties should be published as an act of justice to the other members of the Philadelphia trade who

PUBLIC INVITED TO GOVERNMENT SHEARING MAY 31, AT DUBOIS, IDAHO

Everyone interested in wool is invited to witness the shearing, on May 31, of the Government's experimental flocks at the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station at Dubois, Idaho.

The ewes shorn on that day will include the yearlings of the Rambouillet, Corriedale, Columbia and cross-bred flocks. These will be penned separately before and after shearing, offering the fullest opportunity for examination and comparison. The stud rams of the different breeds can be seen at the same time.

The station headquarters, where the shearing is done, are reached over a good auto road, six miles northeast of Dubois.

The Idaho Wool Growers Association will hold a meeting at Dubois on the day previous to the shearing, May 30. This meeting is particularly for the convenience of sheepmen located in eastern Idaho.

would be regarded with suspicion unless the full facts were given out. Last month an officer of the Treasury Department announced that the wools involved were shipped from Montevideo by Thomas A. Wood to his brother, R. W. H. Wood, of Philadelphia.

It has been stated that fine fleeces were packed in bales having carpet wool around the outside, with expectation that the shipment would be admitted as carpet wool and therefore exempt from duty under the Emergency Tariff Act.

THE CENSUS FIGURES ON SHODDY

To the National Wool Grower:

I have read with interest the letter from Mr. J. A. Hill on page 22 of your issue for April.

The amount of wool fabric made in the United States and the amount of material used in its production may be guessed about almost indefinitely, according to one's temperament, but finally one is obliged to conclude that the real facts of the case probably are pretty close to what has been ascertained by actual count. I object, therefore, to Mr. Hill's classifying my statements about the production of wool and the use of shoddy (these state-

ments having been drawn from the census) with other statements which are either based on guess, estimate, or mere hunch.

For purposes of record let me give you once more the figures from the census covering the calendar year 1919 and let me remind Mr. Hill, through you, that these are not matters of opinion, but that they are the best available figures established by actual count.

Woven goods produced by woolen and worsted goods industries, 1919 (square yards)	535,937,572
Portion of the above produced by worsted goods industry (square yards)	282,316,546
Scoured wool equivalent of new wool used in worsted goods industry (pounds)	177,288,745
Scoured wool equivalent of new wool used in woolen goods industry (pounds)	86,547,717
Wool waste and noils used in worsted goods industry, 1919—virgin wool under French-Capper bill (pounds)	3,300,640
Wool waste and noils used in woolen goods industry, 1919—virgin wool under French-Capper bill (pounds)	38,522,138
Recovered wool fiber used in worsted goods industry, 1919 (pounds)	2,224,011
Portion of this total purchased from sources outside the using mill, 1919 (pounds)	1,747,551
Portion of recovered wool fiber total made in worsted mills for consumption, 1919 (pounds)	476,460
Recovered wool fiber used in woolen goods industry, 1919 (pounds)	49,081,630
Portion of this total purchased from sources outside the using mill, 1919 (pounds)	31,416,145
Portion of recovered wool fiber total made in woolen mills for consumption, 1919 (pounds)	17,665,485
Material	Quantity—Lbs.
Total	353,299,316

Scoured wool	295,388,119
Recovered wool fiber	57,911,197

Purchased	37,532,275
Made in establishments using	20,378,922

These facts, I realize, are very damaging to the ideas that some people entertain about the relation between new wool and recovered wool used in the American wool manufacturing industries, but that does not seem to me to alter their value in comparison with mere estimates. Paul T. Cherington.
Secretary National Association of Wool Manufacturers.

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EDITOR.....F. R. MARSHALL
Salt Lake City, Utah

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EDITORIAL DISCUSSION

Financial Adjustments:

Continuation of War Finance Corporation loaning powers until July 1, 1923, was unanimously voted by the United States Senate on May 1. It is certain that the House of Representatives and the President will concur.

The merits of the case for improvement in the financing of agricultural production and marketing have been accepted and are now understood by those who raised the false issue of class legislation and who are always the last to grasp the fundamental and national need of affording equal opportunity in country and city occupations.

The sane and forceful presentation of the case from the Commission of Agricultural Inquiry removed all sincere objections to what is proposed to be done. It is pertinent again to remark that the United States is now following a reasonable, practical and forward-looking policy on agriculture.

Mr. Meyer's Report:

Chairman Meyer of the War Finance Corporation recently concluded a trip of visits to the state and district committees acting for the corporation. His attitude toward the industries and sections is so fair and his recommendations so safely constructive that the whole country wishes for more executives of his type who will leave the routine of their offices and the watching of Congress to subordinates and acquire a first-hand understanding of the problems handled by their departments.

In a report to President Harding based upon his survey of conditions, Mr. Meyer suggested six remedies, some of which go still further than those proposed by Chairman Anderson of the Commission of Agricultural Inquiry. The recommendations of Mr. Meyer are:

"1. Enactment of legislation specifically authorizing the organization of institutions to rediscount the paper of live stock loan companies, and the es-

tablishment of a system for the more adequate supervision and inspection of the live stock which furnishes security for the paper.

"2. Frank recognition of the need for the orderly marketing of agricultural products in a more gradual way and over a longer period, and the adjustment of existing banking laws and regulations with this end in view.

"3. Establishment of a rediscount facility to make it possible at all times for co-operative marketing organizations to obtain adequate funds for their operations.

"4. Extension of the powers of the Federal Reserve banks to include the purchase in the open market of eligible paper secured by non-perishable agricultural commodities, properly warehoused.

"5. Encouragement of state non-member banks to enter the Federal Reserve system and reduction of the minimum capital required for admission to the system—admission in such cases to be conditioned upon an undertaking to increase the capital to the present minimum of \$25,000, within a definite time.

"6. Amendment of the national banking act to permit a limited amount of branch banking within a limited radius of the parent institution."

General Freight Rates:

Existing freight rates on live stock, wool, and other agricultural products were placed on their present basis for a temporary period to end June 30th. The larger reduction of 25 per cent was originally made effective in September to expire on December 30th. At that date, however, a further six-months period was agreed upon. The 10 per cent cut on wool and other agricultural rates took effect in January and were then scheduled for six months.

It was considered that the entire matter of rates would be readjusted in the spring and more permanent schedules worked out in fairness to both shipper and carriers. The Interstate Commerce Commission conducted a three months' inquiry and hearings into rates in general with a view to establishing the new schedules. Their decision has not been published, but is expected very soon. It seems quite

improbable that the old live stock rates will be restored, but further action or representation must necessarily be suspended until the commission has given out the decision now awaited.

Wool Freight Rates:

The case of wool freights was under further special consideration last fall through the railroad's proposal to reduce rates from Pacific coast points to enable them to secure part of the wool that went to the ship lines last year. The proposal carried reductions for inland points only as such might come in the territory where rates are set by combining the rate to the coast with the lower rail rate from thence to the Eastern cities.

A report upon this phase of wool rates has recently been submitted by Mr. Disque, an examiner for the commission. Mr. Disque recommends against approval of the carriers' petition. He argues in favor of retaining to the ship lines the part and character of business which they naturally should handle and suggests that "the rates be so adjusted that the movement of wool traffic from Intermountain territory would be principally by water, affording the rail lines fully compensatory rates to the Pacific coast terminals for the comparatively short hauls against the current of traffic and at the same time resulting in a utilization of some of the cars that are moving west empty."

THE CHIEF FORESTER SUGGESTS HIGHER GRAZING FEES

In testifying, on February 1, before the sub-committee of the House Committee on Appropriations, Col. W. B. Greeley, Forester in Chief, speaking of grazing fees, said:

"These fees undoubtedly do not represent the full commercial value of the forage which is obtained, and that is one reason why, in my judgment, special concessions in behalf of the users of the national forest range lands are not justified. In fact, as the committee doubtless recalls, there has been much discussion in the past as to the adequacy of

the grazing fees charged for the use of these national forest ranges. Since becoming Forester I have initiated a comprehensive examination and appraisal of all of our ranges, with a view to readjusting the grazing charges, not on a flat basis as at present, but as to the actual value of each district, classifying the range as to its accessibility, the quality of the forage, the availability of water, and all the factors that enter into its value to the stockman, and when this appraisal and classification are completed it is my plan to put into effect, after a very thorough discussion with the stock associations, giving them a full hearing in the matter, a new schedule of grazing fees which will probably mean a material increase in the revenue from this resource."

A PERMANENT AND NON-PARTISAN TARIFF

To "take the tariff out of politics" is the aim of the preliminary organization committee for an American Non-Partisan Scientific Tariff. The members of the preliminary committee are:

J. Philip Bird, Jersey City, N. J., president, Manufacturers' Association of New Jersey.

George A. Galliver, Holyoke, Mass., Vice-President, Associated Industries of Massachusetts.

Frank J. Hagenbarth, Salt Lake City, Utah, President, National Wool Growers' Association.

J. R. Howard, Chicago, Ill., President, American Farm Bureau Federation.

J. L. Kimbrough, Muncie, Ind., President, Indiana Manufacturers' Association.

W. K. Leonard, Piqua, Ohio, Ex-President, Ohio Manufacturers' Association.

George R. Meyercord, Chicago, Ill., Ex-President, Illinois Manufacturers' Association.

Arthur B. Williams, First Vice-President, Michigan Manufacturers' Association.

The committee favors Senate Bill 3199, introduced by Senator Frelinghuysen of New Jersey, and entitled, "A bill

to transfer the functions of the United States Tariff Commission to the Department of Commerce, to enlarge the duties of the commission, and for other purposes." This bill charges the Secretary of Commerce with the duty of ascertaining through the commission which may be enlarged by him, foreign and domestic costs of production and manufacturing. Such data would be reported to Congress by the Secretary of Commerce. "Whenever the conversion cost in the United States of an article is in excess of the conversion cost of such article in competing countries he shall recommend, so far as possible, the rate of duty required to equalize scientifically the difference between such conversion costs in order that Congress may, whenever possible, fix specific rates of duty based on the American conversion costs."

The committee is distributing a pamphlet explanatory of its views and objects, in which it is argued that the very excellent bill now under consideration by the Senate is necessarily temporary in character. By making the Frelinghuysen bill a part of the Fordney-McCumber bill, readjustments in rates can be made as found necessary without the delay and disturbance to business that inevitably results when Congress must do its own investigating. It must also be recognized that the present commission has been a disappointment in its failure adequately to determine and report production costs.

It is the position of the committee that ad valorem rates are unscientific and operate unfairly in many cases to either the consumer or the producer. With the information at hand which is proposed to be secured and kept up to date fair specific duties can be set and all difficulty in respect to valuation thereby overcome. The suggestions of the committee and of the Frelinghuysen bill are an appeal to friends of American industry, of both political parties, to remove the tariff from politics and to make it scientifically fair and helpful both to consumers and to employees and employers in all industries, including agriculture.

The Senate Tariff Bill and Its Critics

The text of the tariff bill prepared by the Senate Finance Committee differs from the Fordney House bill in two thousand places. Many of the differences, however, amount to nothing more than modifications of figures made necessary by alterations of basic points. The bill is now before the Senate, but no forecast has been made as to the time of the final vote and reference for adjusting of differences between the representatives of the two branches of Congress.

The Senate Committee reported in favor of the wool duty of 33 cents per pound of clean content and without restrictions. The rates are stated in the form suggested by Senator Gooding with stated amounts per pound for grease wools of varying shrinkages. This seems to make clear that the scoured content duty at 33 cents does not effect a raise above the former 11 cents flat grease rate.

Carpet Wools

Carpet wools may be imported under bond and if used for carpets or rugs within three years, the duty of 12 cents per pound will be remitted; if used for other purposes, 20 cents per pound further duty will be assessed, not to be refunded for any reason.

Duties on manufactured articles are at the rate of from 25 to 55 per cent ad valorem in addition to the compensatory duties corresponding to what would be collected upon the wool contained.

Objections to Scoured Content Plan

Objections to the wool schedule relate chiefly to claims of difficulty in administering the clean content duty and to the high ad valorem equivalent of the duty in the case of the coarser wools.

The first objection is removed by the provision contained in the bill for the making of necessary regulations by the Treasury Department. With a latitude of 3 per cent in shrinkage allowed in assessing the duty no difficulty need arise if the Customs Division employs such competent judges of the clean con-

tent of grease wools as are found in the wool trade.

The point of the second objection is that the duty amounts to more than the foreign cost of the coarsest and cheapest grades, which it is asserted go into the poor man's suit. That the duty will be a discrimination against the poor man, few will believe, especially in view of the fact that labor and profit have many times more influence upon clothing costs than do wool values. The apparently high relation of the duty to value is a result of the temporarily low price of the class of wool cited and since the objection was first raised such wools have almost doubled in value.

Both the National Association of Wool Manufacturers and the Carded Woolen Manufacturers' Association have set forth their views on this subject, the latter in a graph which presents the Senate duty of 33 cents as equal to 320 per cent ad valorem on wools having a scoured value of 10 cents per pound. Can it be a true friend of the poor man that would sell him clothing made from wool that can be bought today at ten cents per scoured pound? Does any such clothing wool exist? The first named organization is more modest and names 180 per cent as the possible ad valorem equivalent of the 33-cent duty when levied upon the cheapest foreign wools—foreign value considered. The recent awakening to the world conditions of wool supply and demand and the rise in prices have already given to the lowest class of clothing wools a value that terminates the possibility of importing wools purchased for a figure below that named as the duty to be collected.

Comparison With 1909 Rates

A tabulation printed in the Boston Transcript of April 13th, by a very ingenious set of figures presents the Senate wool duty rate as being higher than the 1909 rate from 50 to 115 per cent. This remarkable set of figures is of deep interest for the results they appear to produce and, also more particularly,

because they place the former import duty of eleven cents per pound at what it actually amounted to in comparison with the 33 cents scoured rate which growers have always been expected to suppose was what they were really receiving. This mathematical and revealing genius presents that in the case of wools having a clean landed cost of 97 cents, the proposed 33-cent duty is equal to 34 per cent of cost. He then, ingeniously but by a slightly involved process, presents the Payne-Aldrich duty as equal to 22 per cent of value. And 34 per cent is 55 per cent more than 22 per cent. Thus, it is argued, "is it not plain that the Senate's rate is 55 per cent more iniquitous than the most iniquitous Payne-Aldrich rate?"

By a similar process an increase of 104 per cent is shown as applying to wools having a clean cost of twelve cents. Why not also assume the existence of some useful clothing wools purchasable at two cents. The rate of duty and of increase would appear in figures so much higher, and equally reasonable or unreasonable.

While lost in admiration of this wonderful computation, let us endeavor to return to the realm of material things. One material feature of this production that has entranced us is the assertion that the Payne-Aldrich rate of duty, 11 cents per grease pound, would amount to 22 per cent of the value of wools now worth 97 cents per scoured pound. The figures are correct. They are based on the fact, now admitted, that under the former rate of duty these wools would have paid, not the equivalent of 33 cents per scoured pound which was said to be the same as 11 cents per grease pound, but about two-thirds of that amount, or 21 cents. The protection of similar American wools of heavier shrinkage is now therefore shown by this chronicle of the wool trade to have been, not 11 cents, but 7 cents, notwithstanding that growers have been harangued and criticised for insisting that the old rates did not give the grower what he was represented as receiving. At last the trade seems to be in agreement with the position of growers upon the vital and disputed facts of the tariff question.

GARMENT LABELS CAN BE CONTROLLED BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

The Supreme Court has reversed the Circuit Court of Appeals and sustained the Federal Trade Commission in its order to the Winsted Hosiery Co.

Garments made of a mixture of cotton and wool had been labeled, advertised, and sold by this company, as "Australian Wool Shirts," "Men's Natural Merino Shirts," "Men's Natural Worsted Shirts," etc. The company conceded that "these garments were not all wool, but asserted that it had become the universal custom in the trade to use trade names of this description and that the trade only looked for an exclusive wool content when the article was advertised as "all wool."

The Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that "the commission was not created as a censor of commercial morals, and that the labels used by the company were long established and well understood in the trade."

The decision of the Supreme Court, in part, is as follows:

"The findings here involved are clear, specific and comprehensive. The word 'Merino' as applied to wool means primarily and popularly a fine long staple wool which commands the highest price. The words 'Australian wool' mean a distinct commodity. The word 'wool' when used as an adjective, means made of wool. The word 'worsted' means primarily and popularly a yarn or fabric made wholly of wool.

"A substantial part of the consuming public and also some buyers for retailers and sales people understand the words 'Merino,' 'natural Merino,' 'gray Merino,' 'natural wool,' 'gray wool,' 'Australian wool' and 'natural worsted' as applied to underwear to mean that the underwear is all wool.

"As a substantial part of the public was still misled by the use of the labels which the Winsted Hosiery Co. employed, the public had an interest in stopping the wrongful practices and since the business of trade rivals, who

marked their goods truthfully, was necessarily affected by that practice, the commission was justified in its conclusion that the practice constituted an unfair method of competition and it was authorized to order the practice to be discontinued."

The above case has great interest for advocates of the labelling of shoddy. There can be no question that the effect of the advertising of garments as "all wool" leads purchasers to understand that they are receiving something better than re-worked material. The deception resulting from selling shoddy under the term "all wool" is no less serious and injurious than that caused by selling part cotton with a "Merino" label.

This question has been urged upon the Federal Trade Commission through the past two years by the National Wool Growers Association. Until the recent decision the commission has been uncertain as to its authority and position in the matter of labels that mislead and deceive the public, even though their incorrectness is known to those regularly engaged in trade in such articles. The Federal Trade Commission is doing constructive work in the interests of the public and also in the interest of manufacturers and dealers, although some of the latter do not yet generally appreciate the value to them of such decisions, as that rendered in the case of the Winsted Hosiery Co. It can now be expected that the commission will proceed to require fair practice in the selling of shoddy.

PACKERS AND STOCK YARDS ACT UPHELD BY SUPREME COURT

The Packers and Stock Yards Act of 1921 is a constitutional measure and applies to live stock commission firms and trades at the various yards. This decision was delivered on May 1, by Chief Justice Taft, one member of the court dissenting.

The case was considered on appeal from the Federal Court at Chicago, the

EASTERN IDAHO WOOL GROWERS' MEETING AT DUBOIS, MAY 30

A meeting of the Idaho Wool Growers Association will be held on May 30th, at Dubois. Their meeting is held for the convenience of wool growers in the eastern part of the state who have not had opportunity to keep closely in touch with their state association through its meetings that have usually been held at Boise.

The meeting comes the day before the public shearing of the Government flock at Dubois.

commission firms and trades contending that their business could not properly be classed as interstate commerce. The decision gives the Secretary of Agriculture unquestioned authority to continue the enforcement of the act as already planned and started. Persons having just ground for complaint against any firms, salesman or speculator at the yards should report the facts to the representative of the Secretary of Agriculture stationed at the yards in which the complaint arose.

The Secretary has not yet announced what charges for selling live stock will be considered to be fair and reasonable.

The complaint filed under the Packers and Stock Yards Act against the thirty-nine member firms of the St. Louis Live Stock Exchange came up for hearing on April 6. The defendants plead guilty to the government's charge of instituting a boycott against co-operative commission firms, not members of the exchange.

It was agreed that the examiner should recommend to the Secretary of Agriculture that the rules of the St. Louis Exchange be amended to prevent conflict with the act. This will require elimination of the rule prohibiting member houses having dealings with those that are not members of the exchange.

The same change will probably follow at other markets, in which event member firms will find no obstruction to their buying from the co-operative or other non-member firms in filling orders for feeder stock or for outside slaughter houses.

The Wool Sack

THE RULE OF CONTRACTING WOOL

The 1922 wool marketing season is proving to be one of peculiar interest and significant developments. In this respect it may be said to resemble nearly every one of the last twenty or thirty seasons.

All through the low times of 1921 things could be seen to be shaping for an upward movement. Figures as to stocks of wool, questionable as they were and still are, revealed an impending shortage when considered with reports of consumption and purchase in the United States and elsewhere, including the revival of operations on the continent of Europe. The outcome of the relation of demand to supply was anticipated in the Wool Grower's discussion of the situation in the December and previous issues.

From May 27 to November 10, the Emergency Tariff Act had the effect of bringing home-grown wools into stronger demand. The large supplies of imports had made scarcity seem impossible and the fact of their steady disappearance through use was not appreciated until early in November, when it was quickly and unexpectedly decided by Congress that there should be no hiatus between the emergency and the regular tariff bills. With this fact assured and with surprisingly large consumption to meet orders for goods, the last days of the old year brought a general realization that control of the wool market was rapidly being shifted into the hands of the sellers. This was reflected in mid-January contracts for purchase of partially grown wools.

A very hoary and very ridiculous saying lives in human conversation and thought—"The exception proves the rule." Most wool growers had learned through costly experience the rule that says that wool trade specialists have good judgment and information and that it is wisdom to follow their lead and to sell when they sell. However, the antiquated falsity referred to came into play and many growers believed

that 1922 would be an exception to the rule that it never pays to contract unshorn wool. The true version of this old saying reads: "The exception proves to be the rule." It means that though an exception to the rule may seem to have been found, yet examination will show it not to be an exception. And 1922 wool selling has been found to be no exception to the rule.

A lessening of contracting operations in February after control of a considerable amount of range wools had passed from growers' hands was a discouragement to many who had not examined the true facts of the wool situation. Consequently, when buying was resumed there were some who were ready to sell at figures lower than had previously been established.

The week ending on April 27 saw ac-

tive buying in Utah, Nevada and California. From 35 cents down to below 30 cents was paid, the variation being due to the attitudes of different sellers more than it was due to variations in the clips. April 26 brought the sale of the Jericho pool at 40 cents and the Parowan (Utah) pool at 34 cents. On the next day sales of over one and a half million pounds were reported from Elko County, Nevada, at prices ranging from 30 to 31½ cents.

Arizona was reported to have consigned 40 per cent of the state's clip, with an equal proportion sold to one manufacturer and the balance to various buyers. A May 4th dispatch from California reports the sale of a mixed clip, containing a little over one-half fine wools, at 40 cents.

The Boston Report

(By Harry A. Kidder.)

The end of April brought a radical change to the Boston wool market. Considerable activity was noted, but this activity was developed along unusual lines. Owing to the operation of the emergency tariff, supplies of choice fine wools have been steadily decreasing. At the moment, the only Territory wools available in sufficient volume to afford a working selection are the first arrivals of the new early shorn Arizona wools. Leading Summer Street houses say that their lofts are bare, and that they see no way to renew stocks except through the marketing of the new Territory clip.

Tariff conditions at Washington are not promising for an early passage of the Senate bill. Until that happens the supply of fine wool must be limited to that available from domestic sources. Everybody connected with the trade knows that that is less than half the actual needs of the country. Emergency tariff rates are so nearly prohibitive that the few little lots of wool being taken out of bond from time to time attract attention all out of proportion to

their weight or importance. Some wools are being withdrawn for consumption, but only where actually needed for piecing-out purposes. No mill has yet reached the point where it can afford to base its season's lines on wool which has paid a duty of 30 cents a grease pound. Therefore it is not strange that the textile manufacturing industry should be waiting with impatience for the passage of the permanent tariff bill.

Statistics are not available regarding either the volume or the ownership of the Australian wool held in bond in Boston today. That the volume is large is well understood, but it is believed that the bulk of the better wools have already been transferred to manufacturers' account. Quite recently reports were current in the trade to the effect that considerable wool had been withdrawn from bond and shipped abroad. Among other lots mentioned were about a thousand bales of Cape wool and several small lots of Australian Merinos. It is said that these withdrawals have stimulated mill buyers to take over the remaining wools in bond as fast as possible, and the last

half of April saw considerable business of this kind in progress.

With this market unusually bare of good fine wools, it is not strange that attention should be focused upon what is being done in the far West. The early Arizona wools are reported to have all been taken over by Eastern buyers. Current rumor here is that the American Woolen Company secured the lion's share of the new wools, and though this cannot be verified, it is reported that as high as 40 cents was paid for some of the best of the early clips in that state.

Perhaps, nothing more clearly marks the way the market has suddenly broadened than the purchase of the Jericho wools by Hallowell, Jones & Donald, announced late in April. It will be remembered that these wools were offered at a sealed bid sale early in February, and that the best bid at that time was that of the American Woolen Company for 36 $\frac{3}{8}$ cents. At that time the growers asked 40 cents and refused to sell. Both manufacturers and the wool trade balked at the top figure. Now, Hallowell, Jones & Donald, whose bid was 35 cents in February, have taken the accumulation at the growers' figure of 40 cents. This marks an advance of at least 5 cents a pound between February 1 and May 1.

All kinds of rumors are afloat in the trade, not to say surmises and suggestions. Competitors in the wool trade are expressing some curiosity as to whether this purchase was made for account of some mill, or whether it was a private venture.

In spite of the fact that this market is bare of wool, there has been a nominal rally in the clean cost values of Territory wool during the past month. Few actual transactions can be cited in support of this statement, but one section of the trade is already talking \$1.15 clean for new clip fine and fine medium staple wools. In fact, that is said to be the figure that must be quoted for the best of the Jericho wools, provided 40 cents was paid for them, as reported. For old wools, going prices on the clean basis are \$1.05 to \$1.10 for fine and fine

medium staple, 90 cents to \$1 for half-blood staple, 70 to 75 cents for three-eighths-blood staple, 60 to 70 cents for quarter-blood staple, 90 cents to \$1 for good French combing wool and 85 to 90 cents for fine and fine medium clothing.

In the Middle West, the market is opening very slowly. There, as well as in the far West, the season is very backward. Shearing has been greatly delayed by cold and unfavorable weather. Scattering carloads of the best wools are reported to have been taken over by Eastern buyers in Ohio, the going prices at the moment, in the grease, being 35 to 36 cents for fine, 30 to 32 cents for medium and 25 cents for rejects. Mill buyers are reported to have been operating in Michigan to some extent on the basis of 35 cents for fine and 30 cents for medium. Medium clips have been taken over in Western New York at 30 cents.

All the above top figures are above the parity of the Boston market, and are only considered justifiable on the supposition that the needs of the mills must eventually boost prices to levels not now in sight. Good Ohio and similar fleeces are quotable here at 47 to 48 cents for fine unwashed Delaine, 42 to 43 cents for half-blood combing, 37 to 39 for three-eighths-blood combing, 36 to 37 cents for quarter-blood combing and 38 to 39 cents for fine unwashed clothing.

The outstanding feature of the market lately has been the continued demand for South American scoureds, including second clip and low wools. A big volume of these wools has changed hands during the past month, and this has naturally led to a renewal of speculative buying among dealers. Yet mill buying has not been lacking, but at all times has been sufficiently large to furnish a background for the speculative transactions. Not only has speculation been stimulated, but prices have been advanced, the last half of April seeing an enhancement in values of South American scoureds of approximately 10 to 15 cents per clean pound. Included in these transactions were sec-

ond clip 50s to 56s and low wools of various grades.

These wools are needed by the woolen mills who have good orders in hand for the popular tweeds and other sport goods in women's wear fabrics so much in vogue this season. Overcoatings have also sold well, especially the fancy backs. Altogether it has been a woolen mill year. Lately there have come to light some faint suggestions of a renewed interest in worsted wools and yarns. Yet when investigated, it is found that such business is largely anticipatory, or else based on a fear that worsted wools are bound to go to extreme heights before the tariff readjustments have been made.

One development of the demand for wools for the woolen mills is the interest developed in the Liverpool East India sale which opened April 24. A large number of American buyers were present, 18 wool men from Boston and Philadelphia having gone over on the steamer Aquitania and another group on a later steamer. These East India wools are properly classed as carpet wools, which come in free of duty under the emergency tariff. This explains the interest taken by American buyers, who are reported to have bought freely on the basis of about 50 cents clean landed Boston for good Jorias and Vicaneers.

The May series of the London wool sales is scheduled to open May 2, and an advance in prices is predicted. With a large number of American buyers on the spot, competition from this side is expected to be keen. Conditions have materially changed since the last series, as the terms of the Senate tariff bill have given a working basis for wool buyers.

Australian markets continue strong. The tendency of values has been upward at the recent sales at Melbourne and Sydney, and American buying has been quite a feature. This renewed interest is supposed to be due largely to tariff developments in this country, and especially to the fact that the Senate bill seems to establish what may be expected in the way of a maximum duty on wool.

THE AUSTRALIAN WOOL POSITION

Sydney, Australia, March 17, 1922.

It might interest your readers if I send you the following summary of wool information based upon figures which appeared in a leading Sydney Daily on March 12th. The expert who wrote the article spoke most reassuringly of the wool situation generally and stated that the surprising decision of the wool appeal board to curtail drastically offering in the face of excellent conditions, with greasy wool selling generally at one of the highest levels in wool history and 90 per cent of the offerings being cleared, has created a mild sensation in all branches of the industry.

Owners everywhere are clamoring to have their wool sold, and as so far only those which have arrived up to November 10 have been available for offering, the big arrivals later on in November and December are still in store awaiting sale.

Until the reduced allocations were fixed, that a full clearance would be made in June, there was a healthy prospect. Now it may not be cleared till August.

Selling brokers, buyers, and growers here are unanimous that there is absolutely no justification for the pessimistic attitude of Bawra. Existing conditions are sound and healthy, and the outlook all that could be desired. Big prices are available for Merinos, stores are full of readily saleable lines, and full clearances are assured. To cut the allocations down from 230,000 to 150,000 bales per month in the face of these conditions is regulation run mad. It might be justified if the market had collapsed, but it is not justified with Merino prices on a most acceptable level as they are today.

A statement compiled by the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers reveals the fact that receipts into Australian wool stores up to the end of February had reached a total of 1,665,594 bales, of which amount Sydney had received 709,575 bales.

BOSTON QUOTATIONS ON TERRITORY GRADES OF WOOL FOR MAY 4TH.

Grade.	Boston Scoured value (average)	Equivalent prices for grease wools of different shrinkage rates as shown					
		68	66	64	60	58	56
Fine and Fine-Medium staple	\$1.17½	.37½	.39¾	.42	.47	(1)	—
Fine and Fine-Medium Clothing	.95	.30	.32	.34½	.38	—	—
Good French Combing (fine)	1.07½	.34	.36½	.38½	.43	—	—
Half-blood staple	1.02½	.32¾	.34¾	.36¾	.41	.43	—
Three-eighths-blood staple	.77½	(2)	—	—	.31	.32½	.34
Quarter-blood staple	.72½	—	—	—	.29	.30	.31¾ .34¾

(1) Wools of this grade seldom have a shrinkage of less than 60 per cent; in other words, seldom yields over 40 per cent of clean wool.

(2) Wools of this and lower grades seldom shrink more than 60 per cent.

Offerings at auction amounted to 810,854 bales, and sales to 746,567 bales, Sydney having accounted for 298,474 bales. Sales privately ex-previous catalogues totalled 44,564 bales, and other private treaty business 40,762 bales, bringing sales to February 28 to 831,893 bales; 39,346 unoffered bales were shipped ex-store, and passed-in wools were shipped to the extent of 1,459 bales, making a total of 40,805 bales.

The quantity disposed of by sale and shipment amounted to 872,698 bales, leaving a balance in store awaiting sale of 762,407 bales, of which 741,556 bales represented unoffered wools and 20,851 bales were passed-in wools. (These figures are exclusive of old wools still under Bawra control).

Further figures, dealing with wools received prior to June 30, 1921, show that of 1,470,935 bales received into store, 1,460,224 bales had been disposed of by sale, shipment, and appraisal, leaving a balance in store of 10,438 bales. The following statement gives the quantity disposed of by sale and shipment in the various centers and wools awaiting sale as at February 28:

	Sales and sh'pt. to Feb. 28	Quantity in store	
		Old clip	New clip
	Bales	Bales	Bales
Sydney	357,221	6,904	321,865
Brisbane	119,074	38	101,851
Victoria	220,218	2,745	248,539
Adelaide	121,595	640	59,117
West Australia	35,899	12	21,224
Tasmania	18,691	99	9,811
Total	872,698	10,438	762,407

With a March allocation of 230,000 bales, and taking private treaty business into account, the quantity of wool in store at the end of the month will be approximately 530,000 bales.

It is interesting at this juncture to compare the record prices of the current season with those of previous years. In considering these, however, it must be remembered that last season was an abnormal one in regard to prices, and that the boom period in which the top prices ruled was a brief one, and the bulk of the season's wool did not share in the top prices. In fact, there was a big carry-over of wool that could not be disposed of during the wool year. The top figure this season is 67 cents, comparing with 93 cents last year, but with this exception it is the highest price ever obtained in the Sydney market for greasy wool. A ten years' summary of a few descriptions is interesting:

Season	Fleece	Lambs	Pcs.	Bellies	back
1912-13	34	29	26½	22½	30½
1913-14	32	29½	26	22½	32
1914-15	36	30	27½	23½	30
1915-16	46	36½	36	29	42
1916-17	59	43½	48	36	56
1917-18	60	42	50½	38	50
1918-19	61½	43	47½	36½	50
1919-20	61½	46	50½	36½	50
1920-21	93	50½	53	46½	45½
1921-22	67½	44	50	35½	50½

The "boom" year of 1899-1900 was the high-water mark prior to the war. To make the contrast of present and pre-war prices more striking, a comparison of today's records, with those of 1899-1900 is interesting:

	1899-1900	1921-22
Greasy Merino fleece	39	67½
Greasy Merino pieces	33	56
Greasy Merino lambs	30½	44
Greasy Merino necks	30½	48½
Greasy Merino bellies	26	35½
Greasy cross-bred fleece	35½	23
Greasy cross-bred lambs	26	23½
Greasy comeback fleece	35½	50½

R. H. Harrowell.

A VIRGIN WOOL ORDINANCE**THE WASHINGTON SEASON AND SHEEP DOINGS**

Wyoming wool growers are following up the state fabric labeling law with local efforts. Mr. Kleber H. Hadsell, Rawlins, sends the Wool Grower a copy of an ordinance recently made effective for the city of Rawlins. The Wyoming state law appeared in the March, 1921, issue of the Wool Grower.

VIRGIN WOOL ORDINANCE.

An ordinance requiring the labeling of all cloth fabric, garments or articles of apparel sold or offered for sale within the City Limits of the City of Rawlins, which contain wool or purport to contain wool, and of all samples containing or purporting to contain wool displayed in this City in soliciting orders, and providing for punishment for violations of the Ordinance.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CITY OF RAWLINS:

Labeling of Goods Containing Wool.

Section 1. Every person, firm or corporation selling or offering for sale within the City Limits of the City of Rawlins, any cloth, fabric, garment or article of apparel containing wool as herein defined, or purporting to contain wool, or displaying within the City Limits of the City of Rawlins, any sample of cloth, fabric, garment or article of apparel containing wool or purporting to contain wool shall place thereon a conspicuous label in one of the three following forms:

1. All virgin wool.
2. Not less than per cent virgin wool.
3. No virgin wool.

Virgin wool as herein defined is wool which previous to its use in the labeled article never has formed any part of any cloth, fabric garment or article of apparel. In the event that any article is labeled in the form indicated as number "2" above, the blank in such form shall be filled in with some percentage. Provided, however, that in labeling any garment or article of apparel which contains lining, facing or trimming, the label shall not be taken to refer and shall not refer to the lining or facing, or trimming or the percentage or percentages of wool contained therein.

Violation—Penalty.

Section 2. Any firm, person or corporation within the limits of said City of Rawlins who shall violate any part of this ordinance or who shall by label state that the labeled article contains a greater percentage of virgin wool than it does contain, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), or by imprisonment in the City Jail for not less than one (1) day nor more than thirty (30) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 3. The provisions of this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Passed, approved and adopted this 1st day of February, A. D. 1922.

Cold backward weather has continued quite consistently through the month. There have, of course, been interruptions of a good day or two at a time, but on the whole the situation is very backward, and we are perhaps a good month later than usual. Grass has been very slow to start and has not grown rapidly, but is now getting good and from now on we are looking forward to an excellent grass season.

As a result of the cold, backward spring, lambing has not been as successful as usual and shearing has been considerably delayed. Our lambs no doubt will be fewer in number, but probably as choice in quality as usual. Shearing started off with the shearers getting 10c and the machine men getting 2½c for their machine. About the middle of the month there was a shearers' strike and they were beaten.

Wool has been moving to some extent nearly all month. It began selling at prices ranging from 19c to 23c, according to grade. It has gradually advanced until at the present time scarcely anything is selling under 25c, and some of it as high as 30c. It is just now announced that one of the largest clips in this state, consisting of 38,000 to 40,000 fleeces of more or less mixed breeding, has been sold at 27½c. The growers no doubt have lost considerable money, by being too eager to sell and too pessimistic regarding the strength of the market. At the present time I think most of the wool has passed from the growers' hands, although there is yet quite a quantity to be sold. Those who have held theirs seem pretty sure to do a great deal better than those who sold earlier.

There has been a consistent effort to contract lambs for fall delivery. To begin with the price offered was 7½c. It has advanced from time to time until it reached as high as 9c. Most of the lambs no doubt were contracted at 8c for the wethers and 8½c for mixed bands with an average weight of about 65 pounds and a minimum of 40 pounds

demand of the grower. Most contracts are for September 25th to October 15th delivery. It is rumored that there have been some 50,000 lambs contracted, but even if that were true, it would not be a large number when considered in connection with the number which the state produces.

R. A. Balch.

A CENTRAL OREGON SURVEY

The past winter has been one of the severest winters experienced by sheepmen of central Oregon for many years. Heavy losses have been sustained and a light lamb crop is a certainty.

It has been a common practice for years of many sheepmen of central Oregon to winter their bands on the great Oregon desert where the sheep browse on sage brush, sometimes on a little green grass and dried bunch grass. These men usually have a small supply of hay available on the edge of the desert to which they can drive in case of need. They were not prepared, however, for a winter which lasted into April and lack of feed, heavy snow storms and cold weather caused a considerable loss.

Conditions in general are not as bad as first reported and with advancing prices in both lambs and wool and the coming of warm spring weather which has started the grass faster than ever before a more optimistic attitude is being taken. Lambing is now on in full sway throughout this section. Many sheepmen express the opinion that the average lamb crop for central Oregon will not exceed 50 to 60 per cent this season. Although the grass has grown rapidly during the last two weeks of April it is not as good as it should be for lambing, especially in view of the fact that many of the lambing ewes are in poor condition and the best of grass would be none too good for them.

The conditions this season are entirely opposite to those prevailing last season when woolgrowers who wintered their bands on the desert fared well and saved thousands of dollars by not purchasing hay for wintering. The ewes came through the winter in excellent

condition and sheepmen made a lamb crop of 90 per cent and better on the open range. A mild open winter made this possible, but not so this season with three to five inches of snow on much of the desert in March. On the southern part of the desert conditions seemed to be worse than in the northern portion where the winter broke up sooner than it did in the south. It is the opinion of many who have made a survey of conditions that the average loss ranges between 20 and 30 per cent. Early April lambing on the open range was practically a failure as there were frequent snow storms during the first part of the month.

With two weeks of warm weather the outlook has changed greatly and present indications are that no more losses will be sustained except an occasional old ewe.

W. L. Teutsch.

Lakeview, Oregon.

APRIL WEATHER ON WESTERN RANGES

By J. Cecil Alter

The following summary of weather, livestock and range conditions has been compiled from the various reports and publications of the United States Weather Bureau:

UTAH—The growth of grass has been very much retarded by unusually cool weather and while dry pasturage and hay have been fairly plentiful, sheep have not done very well, and many cattle and horses are poor. A general migration toward spring pastures has occurred with the disappearance of snow from the deserts. Sheep shearing was greatly delayed and hampered by stormy weather, particularly during the first half of the month, and much shearing is being left until after lambing. Inclement weather has caused some loss of early lambs.

NEVADA—Cold, stormy weather during the first two weeks was quite unfavorable for live stock, and some sheep are poor in the northern portion; elsewhere, however, cattle and sheep are doing fairly well. There has been considerable loss of calves and

a rather heavy loss of lambs. The last week was milder and more favorable, though many sheep will not be shorn until after lambing, and some cattle feeding continues. Grass is coming slowly and hay supplies are getting low in places.

IDAHO—This was a rather hard month on stock because of cold wet weather, with frequent rain and snow storms; the retarded growth of grass was also unfavorable, though animals are still in fairly good condition as a rule. Hay supplies have been considerably depleted due to prolonged feeding. Weather conditions were much more favorable for shearing and lambing during the closing days, though some lambing grounds were still under snow and the outlook was not the best. Very little new range is yet being grazed.

MONTANA—The season has advanced slowly and unevenly, but live stock are picking up slowly over most of the lower parts of the state. The hay surplus has been greatly reduced or entirely consumed during the long feeding season. On the whole the weather has been hard on stock and many animals are run down badly, and many weak horses died. Bad weather at the beginning of the lambing season caused a considerable loss of lambs, but generally of late lambing has been progressing more favorably; calves are also doing fairly well.

WYOMING—Cold, stormy weather has not only been rather severe on stock but the grass has come very slowly, and hay supplies are low. Some losses of weak cattle, range horses and lambs were reported in the northeastern and central counties, while elsewhere stock feeding has continued. Some improvement in the condition and amount of new grass was noted during the milder weather of the last week and animals were spreading out on to the range in places. A little shearing has been done.

COLORADO—Vegetation is backward and the weather has been unfavorable for stock at times, though most animals are in good condition. The ranges were improving, however, with

the milder weather of the closing ten days of the month. Shearing is nearly completed in places.

WESTERN TEXAS—The weather has been generally favorable, with moderate temperatures and ample rainfall, and spring grass and browse have made a good showing in most sections. Cattle are generally in good condition. Rain is needed in the western parts.

NEW MEXICO—The range has continued in fair condition though rain was needed generally at the close of the month, especially at the lower elevations in the southern portion. Live stock are in fairly good condition, and some animals are entering the summer grazing lands, though new feed is growing slowly.

ARIZONA—Cold nights and frequent frosts during the first three weeks were hard on shorn sheep, and much feed was consumed though grass has grown slowly all month. However, most sheep remained in excellent condition and a fair crop of lambs are reported to be doing well. Better weather prevailed during the last week, especially in the southern counties, though rain was needed on the range locally, especially in the northeastern portion. Shearing was practically completed.

CALIFORNIA—Cool, frosty weather held back the spring range considerably, especially on the foothills where the snow cover was abnormally slow in disappearing. Thus, while stock are in fair condition they have gained flesh slowly. Milder weather during the last week brought improvement to pastures though green feed is still not abundant.

OREGON AND WASHINGTON—Low temperatures have retarded vegetation growth and the spring season is abnormally late in practically all sections. The last week, however, was much warmer and more favorable for the growth of pastures and the condition of live stock. Meadows and pastures were making a slow, steady growth but green range feed is still inadequate. Some shearing has been done.

Review of April Sheep and Lamb Markets

CHICAGO

Live mutton trade went on a shorn basis about the middle of April, when everything in the fleece except a few Colorado lambs disappeared. May 1 found the markets in the throes of spring adjustment. Shorn lambs were on a \$13.50@14.85 basis; spring lambs sold at \$15@17.35; yearlings were worth \$10@12.75; wethers, \$8@10.50 and ewes anywhere from \$7 to \$9.50. The April market was choppy, but every short run developed a strong undertone. Toward the end of the month feeders dumped a lot of clean-up stuff into the market hopper, developing a wider spread of values. Eastern demand was broad and invariably saved the day whenever bear raiding was attempted. Right after Easter a crash occurred, prices breaking \$1 to \$1.50 per hundredweight, but recovery was prompt and the last week of the month restored the highest prices of the season in the case of tops. A flurry in the Eastern dressed market at that juncture advanced dead product \$4 to \$6 per hundredweight.

The spring lamb season opened with natives on an \$18 to \$26 basis, early California arrivals making \$17@17.50. Shearers were anxious to speculate, but could get the stuff they wanted at prices ranging from \$13.75 to \$15.60. Late in the month medium and common stuff was severely discriminated against, but earlier it sold up close to better grades.

The First Week

The first week of the month, ending April 8, delivered 171,000 head at the ten principal markets, compared with 237,000 a year ago. This light supply, coupled with lively shipping demand, maintained values until Thursday, when shippers filled up and all except choice light lambs lost 25@50 cents. Results for the week were a 25-cent advance on light lambs and sheep, other grades of lambs advancing 25 to 50 cents. Spring lambs, averaging 57 pounds, went to packers at \$19; others weighing 49 pounds at \$20; the entire spring lamb

supply selling at a range of \$16@20. Packers paid \$16.50 for woolled Colorado lambs, feed-lot throwouts in the fleece going at \$14@15.50. Shorn Texas yearlings sold at \$12@13.25, according to weight and quality; choice 125-pound woolled wethers reached \$11 and good shorn wethers went at \$10@10.40. A new top for the season was made at \$10.50 on choice woolled ewes weighing 116 pounds, bulk of the desirable ewes in the fleece realizing \$9@9.75, with extreme heavies at \$8@8.50.

The Second Week

The week ending April 15 duplicated the 171,000 supply of the previous week at ten markets, comparing with 259,000 the corresponding week of last year. Prices took a downward slant, especially late in the week, when independent killers practically quit the market. Woolled lambs got the hardest bump, breaking 75 cents to \$1, shorn lambs losing 50 to 75 cents. Sheep were so scarce that they were immune until Friday, when they lost 25 cents. Choice heavyweight woolled lambs worth \$16.50 on the high spot the previous week, dropped to \$15.50, a few passing \$15.25 and good strongweights selling down to \$14.50. Strong lambs, medium weight, dropped to \$13@13.50, a heavier grade selling as low as \$12.50, although culls were eligible to \$11.50@13, as they could be substituted for spring lambs by reason of light weight. A few spring lambs sold at \$20@26. Shorn Texas yearlings and twos reached \$13 and shorn wethers \$10 early in the week, fall-shorn Texas wethers making \$10.50. A limited supply of fat ewes sold at \$9.50@10 in the fleece and \$8@9 when shorn, a common price for shorn ewes being \$8.50. Shearers paid \$15 to \$15.75 for heavy fleeced lambs.

The Third Week

A reaction occurred during the week ending April 22, when 135,000 reached the ten markets, compared with 256,000 a year ago. Early in the week everything broke 25@50 cents, but the repair gang went to work promptly and by

Friday substantial gains had been made under decided supply curtailment, attributable to the previous break. Fat lambs and yearlings advanced 25@50 cents, choice woolled lambs making \$15.75 on shipping account and \$14 being paid for shorn stock, something choice being eligible to \$14.25. Bulk of the shorn lambs cleared during the week at \$12.75@13.25 and most of the woolled lambs at \$14.75@15.50. A few native spring lambs arrived, but were in poor flesh, selling at \$16@16.75 and weighing anywhere from 30 to 55 pounds. Navajo woolled yearlings, 100-pound, at \$12.50; and woolled wethers of the same type at \$10 indicated the sheep market. Shorn wethers made \$9.50 and light, shorn Texas stock, \$9.25 to \$9.50. Not enough ewes were available to make a market, \$9@9.25 taking most of the woolled and \$6.75@9, the shorn stock. Shearing lambs, weighing 58 pounds, went to the country at \$14.25.

The Fourth Week

The last week, ending April 29, registered a run of 231,000 at ten markets, against 221,000 a year ago. At the outset a runaway market developed, prices advancing 50 to 75 cents per hundredweight. On this rise, woolled Colorado lambs sold back to \$16.50, the high point of the season, and shorn lambs to \$14.85, another high spot. This boom was incidental to a bulge of \$4 to \$6 per hundredweight in the New York dressed market. Bulk of the shorn lambs sold at \$14@14.50, with a sprinkling down to \$13.50, some light and "hidey" Texas stuff cashing at \$12.50. The only spring lambs at Chicago were odd lots of natives at \$13@17. Omaha received the advance guard of the California crop during this week, which realized \$16@17. Sheep and yearlings were few. Texas shorn wethers made \$9.50@10 and small lots of Westerns \$10.50.

May 1 found the market somewhat erratic. The first California lambs of the season to reach Chicago sold at \$17.15@17.35. Handyweight shorn lambs reached \$14.75, the bulk going

at \$14@14.50. Desirable shorn yearlings, 95 pounds, made \$12.50, others going at \$11.75 and five doubles of woolled Colorado lambs cashed at \$16.25@16.50. The best, 115-pound, woolled ewes were appraised at \$10, but \$8.50@9.25 took most of the female stock. Heavy fat ewes are out of favor and the visible supply of last year's lambs, now yearlings, is small.

J. E. Poole.

OMAHA

Trade in sheep and lambs during the month of April was generally active on good demand, with prices showing an upward trend for the month. Fat lambs made up the bulk of the offerings, receipts each day including a smaller percentage of woolled lambs until at the close of the month only occasional lots were offered which were generally the final shipments from Nebraska feedlots and which usually went out as shearing lambs to local feeders.

Prices ruled strong during the first week, fat lambs equaling the season's high mark of \$16. Demand fell off during the second week and prices registered a sharp break which was regained during the following week, with prices holding steady to strong for the remainder of the month, the month closing at the high time and at an advance of 75c@\$1 over the close of the preceding month. Best handy-weight clipped lambs closed the month at \$14@14.10 as against \$13@13.25 for March.

Small lots of native spring lambs arrived in time for Easter trade and found an active demand, selling from \$17@19. California spring lambs arrived in good numbers during the last week of the month, from three to ten double decks arriving each day. The quality of these first arrivals was generally good and prices held about steady for the week, all sales being included in the range of \$16.50@17.

Feeders and shearing lambs, while in light supply, were in good demand all month and prices advanced in sympathy with the advance on fat lambs,

fair quality lambs carrying good fleece finding a ready sale at \$14.75@15.10. Clipped feeders sold at \$12.25@12.75.

The month's outgo totals 6,738 head as against 7,350 for March and 716 for April of last year and 17,745 for April, 1920.

Sheep prices held firm for the greater part of the month, some strength being noted at times with closing quotations fully 25 cents higher than the close of the previous month. Light ewes made a new high mark for the season, selling up to \$10. Only small lots of wethers and yearlings arrived during the month, moving generally steady to strong, yearlings selling up to \$13.50 as against \$13 for March.

Receipts for the month total 131,000, as against 177,000 for March and 109,000 for April of last year.

Current quotations are about as follows:

Fat lambs	\$13.00@14.50
Spring lambs	15.00@16.50
Yearlings	11.00@12.50
Wethers	9.00@10.50
Fat ewes, light	8.00@ 9.00
Fat ewes, heavy	7.00@ 8.00

KANSAS CITY

April sheep and lamb prices held within a comparatively narrow range, owing to moderate receipts and an even demand. Price fluctuations held within 75 cents to \$1.25. The top prices recorded were the same for woolled lambs as in March and new high records were made for the year on clipped lambs and clipped sheep. The third week of the month was the low spot and the last week developed the high point with closing quotations down about 50 cents for the high level and in line with the close of the preceding month.

Conditions that tended to give stability to the April market were the lateness of the spring lamb crop, meager supplies of winter-fed grades, and a continued good demand for dressed lamb, mutton and wool. The half-fat woolled grades offered passed

into shearers' hands and all the other offerings went to killers. Though dressed meat operators took all the fat grades offered their total purchases at the principal Western markets in the first four months this year are more than one-half million head short of the same period last year.

Normally April prices fluctuate \$2.00 to \$2.50 a hundred pounds and close at the low point of the season. The fact that killers were not able to keep ahead of their orders at any time in the past thirty days prevented any continued bearish sentiment. Texas sheep and lambs which were held in liberal supply at railroad feed yards near principal Western markets were marketed freely with runs evenly distributed. This even movement tended to eliminate price fluctuations.

The close of the month finds supplies of fed grades in all positions about sold out and the movement of California and native spring lambs just starting. Arizona spring lambs are overdue, and the vanguard of this Southwest supply will not begin moving before the middle of May. The season in that state, as in other states, is late. There were only a few bunches of native lamb offered on the local market and they brought \$17 to \$19 a hundred pounds.

The top price for woolled lambs during the month was \$16, for clipped lambs \$14, woolled yearlings sold up to \$13.75, and clipped Texas wethers brought \$8.50 to \$9.75. Woolled wethers sold up to \$10.25 and woolled ewes up to \$10. They were in meager supply. On the close woolled lambs were quoted at \$15 to \$15.65, clipped lambs \$13 to \$13.75, and shorn wethers \$8.75 to \$9.50.

Practically no stock or breeding sheep were offered. A large number of orders for breeding ewes are unfilled. A great many farmers in the Central corn belt who sold off flocks last year would like to get back in the sheep business, but due to lack of breeding ewes it looks as if they will do without. Some will carry their orders over until fall and buy ewe range lambs.

Receipts of sheep in April were 125,161, compared with 152,026 in the same month last year, and an average of 135,000 for the past five Aprils. Practically the entire supply was fed classes from Colorado and Kansas.

C. M. P.

DENVER

Sheep trade at Denver during the month of April was highly satisfactory from the standpoint of the feeder, and also of the producer. Lamb prices were well maintained and sellers had the advantage throughout. Good fat lambs sold early in the month at \$15 to \$15.10 here, while the same grades at the close were bringing \$15.25 to \$15.50. Ewes were very scarce during the entire month. Very few ewes were fed in tributary territory last fall, as they were withheld in the country for breeding purposes, and the few finished out were marketed early in the season. Good ewes sold early in April at \$9.50 to \$9.60. One month later they were quoted at \$8.50 to \$9. Lambs also are beginning to be scarce, most of the stock having been disposed of in this section. Receipts for the month were 83,813 head, compared to 110,753 in April, 1921. For the first four months of 1922 receipts were 467,819 head, an increase of 78,786 over 1921.

California spring lambs are expected to start running here in the not very distant future, and this source will doubtless fill much of the gap in receipts here until grass lambs begin to come to market. W. H. Fulton.

DRESSED MEAT MARKET HEALTHY

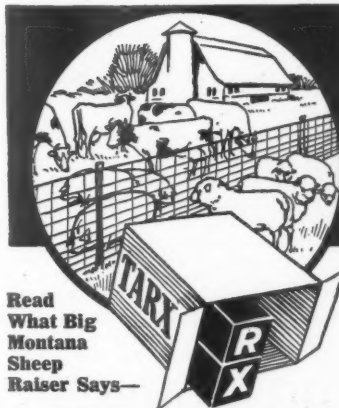
Dressed lamb and mutton markets have been virile right along and in striking contrast to the demoralized condition of a year ago when the whole trade was constantly saturated and packers were endeavoring to work off a mass of New Zealand frozen lamb. This year

there has been a place to put every pound of dressed lamb and mutton and activity by the smaller element of killers has been responsible for lively competition at the market.

Another 100,000 head of live muttons on the March market would have enabled killers to put prices substantially lower. As it was trade betrayed a degree of nervousness that suggested what would have happened if killers had been able to accumulate a little meat in their coolers.

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1,500	36	7	1	5 11	830	45.00
2,000	48	8	1 1/2	5 11	975	52.50
2,500	60	8	4	6 11	1,140	60.75
3,000	71	9	1 1/2	6 11	1,270	69.00
3,000	71	8	5	7 11	1,290	69.00
4,000	95	9	10 1/2	7 11	1,555	87.00
4,000	95	9	2 1/2	8 11	1,580	87.00
5,000	119	10	11	7 11	1,745	98.25
5,000	119	10	3 1/2	8 11	1,790	98.25
6,000	143	11	4	8 11	2,010	111.00
7,000	166	12	1 1/2	8 11	2,160	118.50
8,000	190	12	3	9 11	2,375	130.50
10,000	238	13	7 1/2	9 11	2,770	150.00

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	Gals.	Bbls. 42 Gals.	Diameter ft.	Height in.		
10,000	238	13	10 1/2	9 11	4,660	\$ 225.00
12,000	280	13	10 1/2	11 11	5,370	258.75
15,000	357	15	6	11 11	6,080	303.75
20,000	476	17	10	11 11	7,280	352.50
25,000	593	18	4	13 11	8,510	412.50
30,000	714	20	2 1/2	13 11	9,800	465.00
40,000	952	23	0	13 11	11,300	557.25
50,000	1190	24	0	15 11	13,400	675.00
60,000	1428	26	3	15 11	15,100	742.50
70,000	1666	28	4	15 11	16,700	843.75
80,000	1904	30	3	15 11	18,000	922.50
90,000	2142	30	2	17 11	19,800	1005.00
100,000	2380	30	0	19 11	21,100	1102.50

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BREEDER AND FEEDER CO. OPERATION

Co-operation is the big idea nowadays. It is a popular slogan from the President of the United States down to the bootblack fraternity. More varieties of co-operation have been evolved than there are breeds of dogs. Some have already demonstrated impracticability by failure, others have achieved success and still others are in the try-out stage. Co-operation is the negation of individualism which has been the dominant factor in the agricultural affairs of the country since civilization climbed the summit of the Alleghenies and spread westward.

Any species of co-operation designed to promote effectively economic production deserves propagation. Much has been said and written about closing the gap between producer and consumer. That the useful middleman, perhaps essential is a better term, can be economically eliminated is doubtful. The anti-middleman scream has been absurdly vociferous recently, in fact it has been the chief asset of a coterie of palpably fraudulent promoters in quest of the other fellow's money, grafters of the stripe who put over the co-operative packing house swindle two years back.

Out of this carnival of gold brick-ism sanity is emerging. Co-operation has a legitimate and useful sphere. In a crude way it has been a mainstay of the agricultural industry since the white-man, axe in hand, tackled the forests of the eastern part of the United States, assembling his neighbors at intervals to perform tasks beyond his individual capacity. In its present and evolutionary stages practical co-operation is developing complex phases, necessitating expert service; otherwise failure is inevitable. The list of failures is already long and discouraging despite more or less plausible excuses advanced by the champions of the movement. When limited to the sphere of practicability, under competent and honest administration co-operative energy as applied to agriculture and live stock has been successful, a convincing demonstration of

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this being the phenomenal growth and apparent permanency of the live stock shipping association which has supplanted the individual shipper over the major part of the Mississippi Valley.

This is not intended as a dissertation on co-operation, but is in the nature of suggestion as to the possible practical extension of the idea, to the advantage of the Western sheep breeder and the cornbelt feeder, by closing the present wide and unnecessary gap between the range and the feed lot. Both essential parties to the mutton and lamb producing operation have these many years past complained of the toll collected by the speculator, although the fact that the speculator has periodically sustained heavy loss is ignored; also the additional fact that he has created competition. On the assumption that the speculator is a parasite, however, the opportunity for discussing the practicability of his elimination is timely and the only possible method of accomplishing this purpose is by getting the breeder and feeder together in a co-operative movement by which the annual operations of breeding and finishing would be combined; the profit or loss, as the case may be, in the finality of the transaction, prorated in some equitable manner.

The experience of last summer and fall when cornbelt feeders were hungry for thin Western sheep and lambs, but were unable to secure purchase money, is the basis of the suggestions herein-after contained. No contention will be made that the plan is practicable; merely that it is worth serious consideration. Each season's production in the West carries a percentage of sheep and lamb ineligible to the meat rack, and requiring concentrated feed to put in condition. Under existing conditions the business is carried on in haphazard fashion. Two seasons back feeders paid prices for this end of the crop that insured heavy loss on the finished product. This reacted on the breeder last season as it deprived feeders of credit, prevented them from laying in their normal quota of thin stock and depressed the summer and fall lamb market, probably \$2 per hundredweight as that



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market was constantly saturated and saturation always means trouble for the producer. All last summer and fall packers were under the necessity of slaughtering thin Western sheep and lambs that should have gone to feedlots. Cornbelt feeders were reveling in cheap feed but could not borrow money to buy sheep and lambs even at the current bargain sale, bankers insisting that after the debacle of the previous winter sheep paper was collateral of doubtful value. It is related that an Illinois farmer, whose credit was above suspicion, asked a Chicago banker for a loan of \$25,000 while the bargain sale was in progress, the money to go into thin sheep at a cost of about \$3 per head.

"Nothing doing; absolutely nothing," responded the banker, who had been nipped on some bad sheep loans the previous season. "What certainty is there that they would be worth \$2 or even a dollar a head six months from now?"

If co-operation between breeder and feeder could be put on a working basis, the banker would not be necessary as a middleman in such transactions and the item of interest on the purchase money involved would be eliminated. Here is the plan:

The breeder would cut out his feeders at the loading point, shipping only his fat stock to market. By pre-arrangement with the feeder the thin end of the flock would go direct to the feedlot, probably on a feeding-in-transit freight rate. The breeder would pay freight to the feeding point and stand loss in transit, the feeder paying freight from feedlot to market and assuming loss by mortality during the finishing period. The feeder would pay feed and labor bills and when the stuff was sold in the finality of the transaction the parties would pro rate the proceeds, the breeder getting paid for home weights, with an agreed on shrink.

Assuming practicability, the benefit of such a plan must be apparent. Had it been in operation last summer it would have been possible to divert a million head or more, of these Western

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sheep and lambs from the market, where they went to killers without serious competition to feed lots in the farming region east of the Missouri River, where feed was abundant for any price bid. The fact may not be generally understood but numbers have peculiar psychological effect on buyers. Post a run at the market in excess of expectation and prices break in sympathy with the figures, regardless of the character of supply. A day's receipts of 50,000 head at Chicago, for instance, might cause a sharp decline on fat grades, even though 50 per cent of it was in feeder condition, while 35,000 would warrant a steady market and, if the feeder element had been eliminated entirely an advance would be logical. There are, of course, periods when feeder buyers make the market, but these moments are the exception rather than the rule, and do not occur during the fall season when market saturation usually appears.

Co-operation between breeder and feeder, even if practicable, will not

spring into full development over night. Great oaks from little acorns grow, but that growth is slow. Mushroom growth in the sphere of co-operation will be of doubtful permanency. If this idea has merit it might be tested by an arrangement between a few Western breeders of standard lambs and a cornbelt feeder of experience and integrity, as success would be in a large measure dependent on confidence and square dealing. That the present haphazard method is disadvantageous to both parties will be admitted, as one season feeders are mulcted by heavy loss and the next year they either sulk or are unable to get credit necessary to buy thin stock. If a co-operative plan could be established, insuring a normal feeder movement direct from range to feedlot each year, regardless of results the previous season, the money market and feed or credit conditions, it would be to the benefit of breeder, feeder, killer and consumer. Summer and fall gluts at the market could be avoided on an all-the-year-round supply condition established, sta-

lamb producer received a larger share. bilizing prices and eliminating feasts and famines.

[The plan suggested by Mr. Poole has been used in Idaho and Utah during the past two years. The plan as advocated by Utah agricultural officials last fall was as follows:

"The sheepman is to put up his lambs and the feeder his hay, grain, and labor, and upon the sale of the fat lambs the receipts will be divided according to the following plan.

"Expense of getting lambs to feed yards and loss to be handled in same proportion.

Days in feed lot	Sheep owner receives	Feeder receives
40 days	66%	34
60 days	62%	38
80 days	60%	40
100 days	58%	42
120 days	55%	45
140 days	50%	50

"This was worked out for feeding lambs at about 4 to 5 cents per pound with hay at \$5 to \$8 per ton and grain 1 cent per pound and a 2-cent spread was taken as about normal and with better type mutton lambs the percentage should be changed so that the lamb producer received a larger share.]

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FEEDERS ON ANXIOUS SEAT

Iowa, full of corn, is nursing red-eyed regret because it failed to sense the fact that feeding sheep and lambs were sold over a bargain counter last fall; other sections of the cornbelt are in the same regretful mood.

"What will feeders be worth this season," is one of the paramount problems propounded everywhere in the cornbelt.

"They'll buy their heads off this season if our correspondence is a barometer," said W. M. Leitch of Kansas City. "We are getting letters by the score, inquiring not only as to the probable cost of feeders, but breeding ewes."

Bankers in the country are as favorable to lamb feeding as they were hostile a year ago. As a short pig crop is apparently inevitable and old corn is abundant, demand for feeding lambs will be emphasized. Last year packers were under the necessity of absorbing thin Western lambs by the hundred thousand; in this year A. D. 1922 it is probable feeders will compete with them on the fleshy end of the crop. J. E. P.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912,

of National Wool Grower, published monthly at Salt Lake City, Utah, for April 1, 1922.

State of Utah, County of Salt Lake.—ss.

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the state and county aforesaid, personally appeared F. R. Marshall, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor of the National Wool Grower, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher—National Wool Growers' Association, 303 McCornick Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.

Editor—F. R. Marshall, 303 McCornick Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.

Managing Editor—None.

Business Managers—None.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or, if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.)

National Wool Growers Association, an unincorporated body, Salt Lake City, Utah, and thirteen state wool growers' associations (unincorporated).

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company, but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the

name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him. F. R. MARSHALL.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of March, 1922.

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SHEEP BUYING IN THE EARLY DAYS

The accompanying photograph, taken in Texas, April 28, 1890, was recently sent to the Wool Grower by a New Mexico correspondent, and entitled, "Wondering what they will weigh in Chicago." In connection with that title, Mr. A. J. Knollin, the man whom the picture represents as doing the wondering, writes:

This was an important fact of sheep buying 32 years ago. There were no scales in the range country and a buyer needed not only to be a judge of fat and quality, but also of weights. In those early days I bought hundreds of thousands of sheep in Texas, and trained my judgment from the start to consider weights in market and was not concerned with what they might

over usual prices because of the quality, length of staple, and uniformity. If there is a better big outfit of sheep in the United States today, than Mr. Campbell had (he sheared about 18,000) I don't know where they are. It took a lot of persuasion or rather a large price, for those days, to induce Mr. Campbell to part with thin lot of wethers before they were shorn. I went out to see them with the expectation of selling for delivery when shorn. They were as fat as any grain fed wethers I ever saw. Mr. Campbell refused to price them with wool on, so I bid him \$5 per head. Wethers had been selling from \$2.50 up to \$3.25 per head. The offer jarred Mr. Campbell loose, but he saw them carry their wool away from the ranch with a feeling that he was doing wrong. There were a few other buyers operating in Texas and they were free to condemn me as a reckless buyer and said, "Every



Wondering what they will weigh in Chicago.

weigh at loading points and what the shrinkage would be. I never really got over the surprises when the reports were received that weights were exactly as estimated or not over a pound off. This was true whether they were shorn—six months', or twelve months' wool. Although in this picture the sheep were in the corral, I had bought them on the range and established the weight in my mind which was 102 pounds and just what they weighed.

There is quite a history connected with it and the Jim Campbell ranch. Only a part of the purchase is shown in the picture. There are about 3,000—four and five-year-old wethers. They were bred up from Spanish Merino or "blacktop" ewes by the use of French Merino California bred rams. They had a full year's growth of wool; unusual for south Texas as sheep were generally shorn spring and fall. Mr. Campbell shipped his wool direct to a manufacturer and was paid a premium

sheepman in Texas will want \$5 per head for his wethers." I answered, "Well, I don't have to buy them if they are not worth it, and this price will encourage them to improve their flocks."

The \$5 purchase in this case was more profitable than the \$2.50 sheep. They carried twelve pounds of beautiful wool while many of the cheaper sheep had but 3 or 4 pounds. The writer stands in the midst of the sheep and with the exception of the hat was dressed much as a clergyman,—standing collar, starched shirt and frock coat. This was my regulation attire in those days. I carried saddle bags wherever I went. On one side I had a few toilet articles, a light flannel shirt, overalls, and a single California all wool blanket. On the other side a loaf or so of rye bread, a few cans of Armour's deviled ham or Swift's corn beef, a yellow slicker, used for wrapping up my clothes, and seldom needed for protec-

Kreso Dip No. 1

(STANDARDIZED)

A Dip That Does The Work Without Injury To The Animal or Fleece.

Kills Sheep Ticks, Lice, Scab Mites and other Parasites

Heals Wounds, Cuts and Common Skin Troubles.

Equally Good For All Livestock

Kills many parasites; disinfects; prevents disease. Easy to use—economical.

Kreso Dip No. 1 is for sale by the Drug Trade.

Write for free booklet on the care of sheep and all livestock.

- No. 151. Sanitation and Animal Welfare.
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- No. 251. Blackleg Prevention.
- No. 252. Blackleg Filtrate.
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Animal Industry Department of

PARKE, DAVIS & CO.

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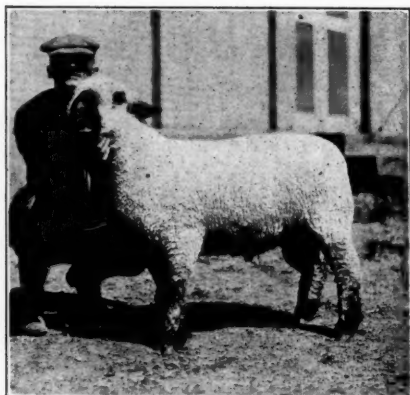
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We are offering this year range rams and stud rams, also a limited number of ewes. Our rams are all registered. We are now contracting them for this season's delivery.

J. NEBEKER & SON
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PERFECT EAR TAG

The Tag for Your Sheep

Perfect Ear Tags are so inexpensive that you can't afford to lose valuable sheep by allowing them to run in the pasture or on the range unmarked. Made of light weight aluminum, non-corrosive and non-poisonous. Easy to attach.

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Salt Lake City, Utah

Send for Free Samples

Without obligation to me, send FREE Samples of PERFECT EAR TAGS and Price List.

Name _____

Address _____

tion from the rain, and a canteen of water. The regulation "six shooter" hung on the pommel of the saddle.

The hardy New Mexico horses frequently carried their load 50 or 60 miles a day. We put in long hours, of course. Would it be possible in this day of telephone and automobile to inspect, buy and sort personally, and frequently load 90 per cent of the sheep going out of southwest Texas, traveling horseback or with team and buckboard? Not for me. In those early days when my muscles seemed made of steel I lost about twenty pounds weight each season's campaign in Texas.

Looking to the right of the group of men in the background, Mr. Campbell leans on the fence, nearly eighty years old at that time—a pioneer wool grower of Texas. At another time I will send you a write-up of this splendid man as I know him.

A. J. Knollin.

NO TEXAS PRICE BREAKERS

Droughty western Texas, whence sheep have been fleeing all winter, has had sufficient rain to graze flocks, but will send no fat lamb crop to market this season. This causes complacency in market circles, as a run of fat Texas grassers invariably means demoralization. Texas has managed to get through the dry spell without sacrificing ewes, but has disposed of several hundred thousand 1921 lambs, yearlings and two-year-old wethers by the feedlot route.

TAX AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON

Just now a certain Idaho County is attempting to collect a full year's taxes from a Washington sheepman who summered his sheep last year in northern Idaho, but who paid his full year's tax in the state of Washington. Heretofore it has been the disposition of the northern Idaho officials to assess sheep for that part of the year actually spent in the state. No one has complained about that method, because it was fair, but it looks now as though the sheepman would have to go into court and fight it out in order to get his rights. Federal court decision cited for the benefit of the assessing authorities and the county attorney have had no effect whatever. They evidently believe that the sheepmen will pay their taxes rather than fight the matter out. It seems now as though no compromise can be reached and it must be litigated.

The assessor and county commissioners of one of the counties in this state have tripped off on the wrong road, evidently under the delusion that the divine right to rule, as they see it, has descended on their more or less empty heads. They have undertaken to assess state leases at the same price as adjoining lands owned in fee simple and compute the tax on that valuation. Then they proceed to deduct from the amount of the tax, the amount which the lessee pays to the state as rental and to collect the difference in taxes. This procedure, of course, is not in any way authorized by law. It flouts the decisions of the supreme court and transgresses any intelligent reasoning. Nevertheless, the obstinacy and ignorance of the county authorities prevent them from making any reasonable compromise and the matter is to be litigated.

The county attorney gently informed the taxpayers who complained that they should litigate the question, as it would not cost the county anything to try the matter out. I would suspect that the county attorney should know that the taxpayers have to pay for both sides of the litigation, but we do not get many men of that degree of intelligence in

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Sheep all sold for 1921. A fine lot coming on for 1922.

Registered Percheron Stallions and Mares for sale. All home-bred.

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Seventh Annual RAM SALE

August 28, 29, 30, 1922

Salt Lake City, Utah

Raup's Ohio Rambouillets



YEARLING RAM

Second prize lamb at International, 1920.

MY OFFERINGS FOR THIS SEASON ARE:

60 head of Yearling Rams

50 head of Yearling Ewes

40 head of 2-year-old Rams

Also breeding ewes from two to nine years.

CHANDLER P. RAUP

Springfield, Ohio, R. D. 10

county attorneys' jobs. The Boston tea party could not have had much on the party of taxpayers who called on the county commissioners to demand an adjustment of this outrage. We will have to await the decision of the court before we can say what the outcome will be. But it seems certain that decisions of our supreme court, which should be a guide to the commissioner, make it impossible for them to be upheld in their contention.

There is surely no other set of men who have as many injustices to put up with as the sheepmen. Probably when they get thoroughly organized and have lambasted some of the perpetrators of injustice sufficiently they will commence to be treated with that measure of respect which other people enjoy and to which they are entitled.

R. A. Balch.

TOBACCO AND COTTON MEN EXAMPLE FOR WOOL GROWERS

The Burley Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association now has 55,710 members, large and small, who have contracted to sell and deliver to their association all the tobacco grown by them from 1922 to 1926. The majority of cotton growers of six states, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, Arizona, and South Carolina are welded together into another immense co-operative marketing association to which the several thousand members are bound by five-year contracts. The Oklahoma Association alone has 35,000 members. The whole stability of the co-operative movement lies in that contract. It is what has made the several fruit associations of California, for example, the Raisin Growers, the successful enterprises that they are. It is interesting to note that Ex-Governor Lowden of Illinois, a business man of no mean ability as well as a

American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Ass'n

Membership Fee \$10—No Annual Dues
Flock Books Free to Members. Volumes XXII and XXIII are being bound together and will soon be ready for distribution. Pedigrees now being received for Volume XXV. Over 115,000 sheep on record.

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For history of the breed, list of members, rules, pedigree blanks, etc., address the Secretary.

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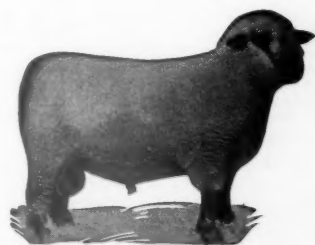
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No annual dues.

The Largest Sheep Organization in the World.

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HAMPSHIRE

The best mutton sheep. Evidence; the highest-priced car mutton lambs ever sold in the world was a car of Hampshires. The price was 42 cents a pound live weight, having beaten all previous records by \$7 per hundred. When you want sheep you want Hampshires. When you want Hampshires let the American Hampshire Sheep Association send you a dandy little booklet and list of live breeders.

Write Comfort A. Tyler, Secretary,
72 Woodland Ave., Detroit, Mich.

RIGBY RANCH RAMBOUILLET RAMS

RIGBY RANCH COMPANY
Castle Rock, Utah

SHORTHORNS

Mt. Pleasant Rambouillet Farm

Our flock originated from the best pedigreed flock in America.

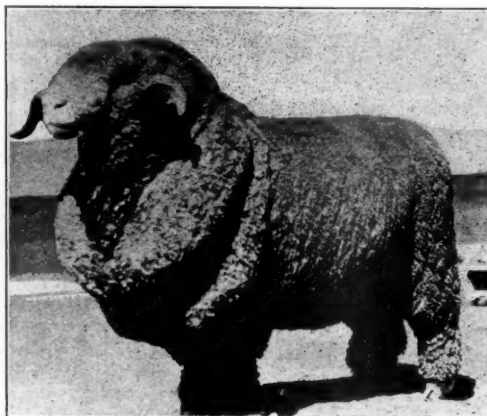
We offer for 1922 trade,

500 very choice, big boned yearling rams;

Also, 200 registered and 100 pure-bred but unregistered ewes on favorable terms.

John K. Madsen
Proprietor

Phone No. 147 P. O. Box 219
Mt. Pleasant, Utah



Old 467, Grand champion, Sanpete County Fair, 1920 and 1921. Grand champion, State Fair, 1921.

FOR SALE

8000 HEAD SELECT FINE WOOL YEARLING EWES

This stuff is range raised and would make a fine foundation herd, or would fit in with any outfit desiring top ewes. Delivery on, or before June 1st. Address—O. N. Shaw, 223-233 Merchants National Bank Bldg., Los Angeles, Calif.

Merino Ewes

3,250 Merino yearling ewes, delivered after shearing, any time between May 1st and July 1st. These ewes are now on good green feed on the desert, and in good condition.

Write: **ALFRED GIRAUD**
Box 131, Independence, Inyo County, Calif.

statesman, signed a five-year contract with the Co-operative Cotton Association to market his cotton from his 32,000-acre plantation in Arkansas through his association.

Why can't wool growers duplicate these examples? They can and are doing it in a number of states. In Texas, the Southwestern Farm Bureau Wool and Mohair Association has made a good start, handling some 2,000,000 pounds of wool and preparing to handle much more in 1922. On the coast, the Pacific Co-operative Wool Growers at Portland, representing some 1,900 growers in Oregon, Washington and Idaho, had a very successful year, and are planning on considerable expansion in 1922. But the movement can never serve the industry as it should until the large range growers get actively behind it, and support it. Editor Marshall has ably set forth these facts in a former editorial.

The majority of the large range growers have remained aloof from co-operative wool marketing, feeling that they were able to market their clips to an equal advantage independently. Statistics, however, do not bear this out, for there are numerous examples of range men who did join their wool marketing organizations and who netted several cents a pound more than their neighbor did who preferred to market his wool in a manner humorously called "the independent way." As a matter of fact, the large growers usually fare best in the associations, and the associations need the counsel and help of the big sheep men. Every wool grower who believes in the industry, who believes in co-operation, and who believes that there is room for improvement in present wool marketing methods, should market his 1922 clip through his local association or pool.

R. A. Ward.

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